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FRENCH "JUSTICE!"

POOR FRANCE! We used that exclamation some months ago in reference to the condition to which military disaster and political discord had reduced France; and we repeat it now in reference to the state of moral, social, and judicial degradation to which she has reduced herself. High principle, moderation, common-sense, justice, and mercy seem to have fled that unhappy land. While uttering a profusion of fine phrases about honour, freedom, patriotism, wisdom, statesmanship, and so on, Frenchmen appear to have but a dim comprehension of the things these words signify. A nation's character and tone of thinking are, perhaps, more faithfully reflected in its newspapers than by any other agency; and the notion French journalists in general seem to entertain of an honourable exercise of their vocation is to pervert facts, to invent falsehoods, to traduce all they deem their foes, to utter futile threats of vengeance, and to pander to the meanest passions of their countrymen. Patriotism, in Frenchmen's estimation, appears to consist, not in loving and striving to elevate and improve their country, but in hating "the Prussians" and taking every opportunity of doing them an injury, when that can be effected with safety to the perpetrator—witness the crime and acquittal of Césaire Narcisse Tonnelet, described in another column. As for justice and statesmanship, the present rulers of France have apparently no higher notion of the one than is conveyed by military tribunals, and of the other than consists in a state of siege and a retribution of blood. Of freedom, we doubt if average Frenchmen have any better conception than that liberty means exalting your own notions and party and crushing those of opponents, however and whenever opportunity permits.

These are hard things to say concerning a once great, and still powerful, people; but do not the events of the last two years—to go no farther back—fully warrant them? First, an unjust war is engaged in "with a light heart;" then, it is carried on in so faulty a fashion as to ensure—almost to court—defeat; crushing disasters are paraded—for a season—as glorious victories, foreign newspapers, for telling the truth, being vituperated as liars and slanderers; internal discord runs rampant, and that, too, in face of the fact that the feet of a conquering foreign foe still pollute the land; men, whose chief fault lay in loving their country, not wisely, perhaps, but so well as to refuse to acknowledge that she was beaten while still able to resist, are denounced as traitors, fools, and imbeciles by others whose sole merit consists in a prudent care for their own persons and belongings; Governments are set up without judgment, and toppled over again with as little show of reason; the capital rebels against the provinces, claims to establish a Government of its own, and, ere it is subdued, has to pass through a terrible baptism of fire and massacre. Even then—even now, months afterwards—the rage for blood-shedding is not satisfied. Under the Commune two Generals were murdered, some seventy or eighty innocent hostages were put to death, and a portion of Paris given up to incendiary flames; and in retribution for these deeds—barbarous and wanton crimes, as all dispassionate men must admit—thousands were slain in the streets of Paris, in an equally wanton and barbarous manner, without trial and without conviction. Still the cry is for more blood; and this week four victims

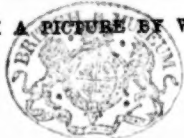
have been immolated, and probably others await a similar doom.

Of these victims, one—Ferré—seems to have well merited his fate; but that fate should have overtaken him sooner, if

it was to serve any purpose save gratifying the spirit of revenge. A second—the soldier Bourgeois—may have been equally culpable (we forget, at present, of what particular crime he was accused), but surely he was poor quarry for the



"THE GLEANER," FROM A PICTURE BY W. BOUGUEREAU.—(ENGRAVED BY PERMISSION OF MESSRS. GOUPEL AND CO.)



rulers of France to fly at. A third—Rossel—was a man of whom any nation might be proud: was, in fact, one of the very few—nay, almost the only one—among the officers of the French army who had made the principles of his profession a study, and had kept himself untainted by the vices which pervaded and enfeebled the military order in France. Only twenty-seven years of age, he had won his way up to the grade of Colonel of Artillery—in all armies the most exacting branch of military science; he had written eloquently, wisely, and well on the art and science of his profession; his chief—if not his only—crime consisted in this, that, refusing to admit that his country was utterly defeated, he threw off allegiance to the nominal Government of the hour when it sued for peace, and cast in his lot with those whose voice he believed to be still for war; and this man—so full of performance, so rich in promise—the rulers of France could put to no better use than to shoot him like a dog! And on whose sentence, and at whose dictation? On the sentence of a court-martial composed of men whose only distinction was that they had gloriously won captivity at Sedan and Metz! who had themselves been false, technically speaking, to the oath of allegiance they had sworn to the Emperor; and who were capable of no more exalted effort of mind than a rigid, martinet-like application—a straining even—of the letter of military law! At the final dictation of a Committee of Pardons, composed of provincial nobodies, of whose names the world knows nothing, and not one of whom, we verily believe, would have dared to do individually the deed they have sanctioned under cover of collective obscurity!

Well may we say, "Poor France!" when within her bounds foreigners, because they were lately enemies, can be murdered with impunity; when journalists, like Louis Ulbach, can be fined and imprisoned on a quibble over a matter of punctuation; when a man of the stamp of Rossel can be sent to execution without repugnance; when the Chief Ruler of the land lacks courage to stay the deed; when no law is known save that dispensed from the drumhead, no freedom enjoyed save that of subservience; and when, by all these agencies combined, the seeds of discontent and of a terrible retribution in the future are being so heedlessly sown.

"WRITE ME DOWN AN ASS!"

The opacity of intellect characteristic of the self-righteous order of mankind would furnish opportunities for admirable rejoinders, were it not that such people are incapable of feeling a rebuke, unless it be administered in a sledge-hammer sort of style. Here is Mr. Whalley, M.P. for Peterborough and special representative of "true-blue" Protestantism—*sans doute*, a very righteous man, at all events, from the aforesaid true-blue Protestant point of view—who has just addressed a letter to Mr. Gladstone asking whether it be true, as reported to Mr. Whalley, that the Premier, while professing to be a member of the Church of England and a Protestant, is really a Papist, a member of the Church of Rome, an adherent of the "Scarlet Woman." To this Mr. Gladstone replies, in effect, that the question is an insult, seeing that no man, who was not a scoundrel, would pretend to be one thing while he was another; and adds, also in effect, that his interrogator could not have asked such a question had he not been too stupid to see that it was insulting. The Premier having proceeded to say some polite things about Mr. Whalley conscientiously performing disagreeable duties, that honourable, and learned, and orthodox gentleman takes the whole as a compliment, instead of perceiving, as anyone not so intellectually pachydermatous would have done, that a severe though polished rebuke was intended. Mr. Gladstone tells the member for Peterborough that, though an insulting ass, he is a conscientious donkey, who does his drudgery honestly; whereat Mr. Whalley is hugely pleased! Does not that show that Dogberry cannot be dead so long as the member for Peterborough lives? Speaking of Dogberry suggests the idea that Mr. Whalley should adopt an ass's head for his cognisance, and the words at the top of this paragraph for a motto. Nothing could be more appropriate, provided always that the heraldic draughtsman takes care to give the hon. gentleman ample length of ear. Besides, to ask such a question as that put by Mr. Whalley to the Prime Minister is silly as well as insolent; because, if a man be capable of acting a lie, as the member for Peterborough insinuates Mr. Gladstone is doing, he must necessarily be capable of telling one; if he could pretend to be a Protestant while in reality a Papist, he would certainly make no difficulty about saying in words what he implied by deeds; and thus his affirmation or denial would be worth nothing. So, in any view of his letter, Mr. Whalley has vindicated his title to the crest and motto we have proposed for him.

This is not the first time, by-the-by, that Mr. Gladstone has been asked a like question; and, as we think, has been so ill-advised as to give a polite answer. It would have been wiser either to treat such impertinences with silent contempt, or to have administered a thorough "facer" in return. The "quip modest" and the "retort courteous" are thrown away upon men of the Whalley stamp; the "rebuff churlish" or the "counter-check quarrelsome" would better appeal to their powers of comprehension. The best course of all, however, would be "no answer;" and that is the one we hope Mr. Gladstone will in future adopt with people who ask impertinent questions and are too stupid to perceive their impertinence.

THE PIRINGHAM AND MIDLAND COUNTIES ANNUAL CATTLE AND POULTRY SHOW was opened last Saturday. The exhibition is one of the largest ever held in Bingley Hall, for there are 2200 entries.

"THE CLEANER."

WE are able this week to reproduce one of the best of M. Bouguereau's charming little works—such a bright, fresh, pleasant picture as surely attracts popular attention in any gallery where it is exhibited, while paintings of far greater pretensions are passed by with small appreciation. The explanation is easy. These telling little pictures are suggestive of the sympathy which is always displayed by the true artist, and appeal directly to the common sentiment. The sweet, saucy face of the child looks out upon us with an expression that at once challenges our admiration, and leads us to fill up a simple story for ourselves—the story of a young innocent life full of rustic beauty and simplicity. To enable us to feel this sort of interest is the mission of art, it is requisite for the painter to have mastered the mechanical difficulties so completely as to leave no trace of them in his work. Harmony of colour, delicacy of handling, freedom of execution, must be joined to tender fancy to complete the picture; and its highest merit is that we look at it so lovingly that we altogether forget to be critical. "The Cleaner" is one of the pleasantest of those admirable small paintings which are now so frequently exhibited, and bring specimens of modern painting within the reach of people who, without large rooms in which to hang great historical or dramatic pictures, love to have two or three pretty, suggestive pieces to adorn a modestly-furnished drawing-room.

THE EXCITEMENT IN BRUSSELS.

It is always difficult to determine how far popular demonstration represents popular feeling, for the single reason that those who feel most deeply are the last to give vent to their indignation in the public streets. And yet it would be wrong to affirm that a demonstration has no meaning at all. The agitation which has for the last few days disturbed the equanimity of Brussels has not as yet assumed a very threatening shape; but there cannot be the slightest doubt that it may at any moment take formidable proportions, and that the cloud no bigger than a man's hand may cover the otherwise serene sky of what we are accustomed to look upon as a model kingdom. The conflict rages between the opposite sides of the Chamber of Representatives. On the one side are the clericals, who form a compact majority of two thirds of the House; on the other side are the Liberals, or rather those who bear the respective names of Doctrinaires, Progressistes, and Radicals. The dissolution of the Chamber at the commencement of 1870 broke up the Liberal party, which had been for a long time divided against itself, and the elections, largely influenced in the country by the Catholic priests, returned the clerical party at the head of the poll. Here began the usual struggle of town and country. The towns, it is almost needless to say, were and are Liberal and anti-clerical; the country is not so much Conservative as ignorant, superstitious, and priest-ridden. Nevertheless, the internal disagreement of the Liberals had put the Clericals in power, and it will be a matter of some difficulty to get rid of them, as long as there is no fusion of all parts of the Opposition and an appeal to the country.

The immediate cause of disagreement is the appointment of M. Pierre Dedeker as Governor of the province of Limburg, while various acts of maladministration are, as a matter of course, brought forward to strengthen the hands of the Opposition. M. Dedeker's name is well known in Belgium, and up to a certain period of his life he was always mentioned as one of the most respected statesmen of the day. A man of learning and taste, a powerful orator, a ready debater, a member of the Ministry in 1855 and 1856 and some time President of the Académie de Belgique, would seem no improper man to fill an important position in the country. It seems, however, that M. Dedeker is not so popular as an outsider would reasonably suppose. Some very ugly things have lately been said against his character, and the very fact that he is still defendant in one of the most discreditable *causes célèbres* which have been revealed in this century throws quite a different light upon him. If all be true that is said—and, it should be added, supported by documentary evidence—M. Dedeker is certainly not the man to fill the Governorship of Limburg. M. Langrand and the speculators who assisted him established a company in 1863 which held out very enticing promises to shareholders, especially to the farmers and the country gentlemen, and the prospectus, being headed by men of great note and respectability in Belgium, found ready subscribers. The leaders of the Clerical party were pressed into its service; a letter was even procured from the Pope himself, recommending the scheme; and, armed with this, the priest took his parishioners by the button-hole, and the money flowed in from all sides. M. Dedeker was one of the directors, and for some time the Langrand Company stood very well. The high interest was paid regularly, and nobody had any suspicion. Presently, when the capital had been paid away in interest, it was necessary to start a second company to keep up the first. The capital subscribed for the second paid the high dividends of the first and the still higher dividends of the second. No business was, or could be, done in the way proposed by the directors; and, as a matter of course, a third company had to be started. The names of the directors still possessing their old power, it was not very difficult for them to keep aloft by means of a fourth and even a fifth scheme, for which the money was readily subscribed by the ignorant and greedy agriculturists. Then came the crash. M. Bara, who was at that time Minister of Justice, thought it his duty to interfere, and it was found that there were no assets worth mentioning, and a deficit of 300,000,000 fr. to 400,000,000 fr. In all these companies M. Dedeker was a director and a shareholder; but so intricate and confusing are their accounts that even now the judicial inquiry into them has not come to an end.

It need scarcely be said that the indignation in the entire country was at the time immense, and M. Langrand thought it advisable to visit the hospitable shores of Britain, whence he has just addressed a letter to the Brussels papers, summoning them in the name of the law to give publicity to a long statement and explanation of how it all came about. Enough has been said to show that a gentleman on whose name there rests so much that is not yet explained is not exactly the person to represent the dignity of Royalty in one of the provinces, however eminent he may have been, however talented he is. On Wednesday afternoon, Nov. 22, M. Bara, ex-Minister, and one of the leaders of the Liberal party, interpellated the Government on the appointment; and, in a speech which lasted three hours, gave a short account of the whole affair, in which the new Governor was mixed up. He read letters which were written for private information, but which had been seized in the offices, and disclosed many other documents of an extraordinary and condemnatory nature. M. Dedeker and several other members, some of whose letters were produced, were present, but had nothing to say. When M. Bara had finished his speech they requested that the debate might be adjourned till the following day, when they would have had time to prepare themselves against the infamous charges of the ex-Minister. The crowd in front of the House kept up a chorus outside which may have inspired and invigorated the Tribune.

On Thursday week the eagerly-expected explanation was not very satisfactory. M. Brasseur, one of the gentlemen most implicated, magnanimously announced that he considered it beneath him to explain; while M. Nothomb, another of the directors, had to confess that there were great irregularities, mistakes, and maladministration; but that the companies were ruined by their enemies, and that, but for the hostile persecutions of the Liberal party, all would have ended happily. When, thereupon, M. Bara desired to speak, the Right rose in a body and demanded the adjournment, which was carried by 67 against 46. It was thereupon that the demonstrations of the crowd took place and continued for several days.

A GOOD DEAL OF WRECK AND TIMBER is coming ashore on various points of the Shetland Islands, supposed to belong to a large vessel from America.

Foreign Intelligence.

FRANCE.

Most of the Paris journals comment upon the execution of Rossel and Ferré, on Tuesday, but their remarks are somewhat guarded. The leading Liberal paper, the *Temps*, expresses deep sympathy with Rossel, but says its first duty is to respect the decision of the Committee of Pardons, which rejected his appeal. It would, nevertheless, have rejoiced had clemency been shown. The *Siecle*, while believing that the Committee of Pardons conscientiously thought the execution to be necessary, wished it had judged otherwise, and abstains from all comment "with mournful sadness." The *Constitution* remarks that to the last moment it made an appeal to clemency, and it reproaches the *Temps* for not having pursued the same course. The time for commenting upon the execution, it says, has not yet arrived. The *National* hopes that, after such a terrible expiation, mercy will be shown, and that an amnesty will be passed by the Assembly. The *Avenir National* speaks of the execution as a "great fault."

Crémieux, one of the Communists condemned to death at Marseilles, was executed on Thursday. When the fatal decision was announced to him he said, "I will show how one dies." On arriving at the place of execution he took off his coat and stood upright. He urged the firing party to aim at his heart and not at his body. His eyes were not blindfolded. He cried, "Vive la République!"

The *Rappel* has been suspended by the Government. The reason (as stated by the *Journal Officiel*) is that the paper, in one of its articles, "insulted the defenders of order and legality during the insurrection, excused the conduct of officials who failed in their duty, and extolled the pretended moderation of the insurgent mob." The *Rappel* is, moreover, charged with having, in another article, perverted the facts which led to the condemnation of one of the prisoners recently tried by court-martial, and thus endeavoured to excite hatred and contempt against the administration of justice.

The ex-Queen Isabella has left France for Munich, the Government objecting to her residing at Pau, as being too near the Spanish frontier.

ITALY.

The session of the Italian Parliament was opened, on Monday, at Rome, by King Victor Emmanuel in person. The following is a summary of his Majesty's speech:—"Italy is restored to herself and to Rome, and we have reconquered our place among the nations of the world. We shall remain faithful to our principle. Regenerated by liberty, we shall seek in liberty and order the secret of strength and a reconciliation between the Church and the State. Having recognised the absolute independence of the spiritual authority, we may be certain that Rome, as the capital of Italy, will continue to be the peaceful and respected seat of the Pontificate. We shall thereby succeed in reassuring the consciences of men. Thus, by the firmness of our resolution and the moderation of our acts we have been able to accomplish the unity of the nation without our friendly relations with foreign Powers being affected. The bills which will be laid before you to settle the future position of the ecclesiastical corporations will be in harmony with Liberal principles; they will only relate to bodies and landed properties subject to the law, leaving untouched those religious institutions which have a share in the government of the universal Church." The speech adds:—"Now that Italy is constituted we must devote our attention to rendering her prosperous by restoring her finances. Financial men will furnish us with the means of strengthening the military organisation. My most ardent wishes are for the maintenance of peace, and nothing leads us to fear that it will be disturbed; but the renewal of the national armaments and the works for the defence of our territory require long and searching studies. The future might call us to a severe account for our negligence. Propositions relating to this subject will be submitted to you." The speech then enumerates various bills concerning the internal administration. It expresses hopes that the accomplishment of the national unity will, as one of its results, render party struggles less fierce. His Majesty rejoices at seeing the population giving proofs of love of work, and says the economical movement must be encouraged, scientific and technical education must be extended, and fresh means of communication and outlets for commerce must be provided. "The tunnelling of Mont Cenis," the speech proceeds, "is completed, and that of St. Gothard is about to be undertaken. Those enterprises will facilitate and increase the friendly relations which already unite us with other countries, and will render more fruitful the legitimate emulation of work and civilisation."

The King was very loudly cheered by an immense crowd in going to and leaving Parliament. Prince Humbert, Princess Margherita, Prince Carignan, the Emperor and Empress of Brazil, and the members of the diplomatic body were present at the ceremony of opening Parliament. The King's speech was much applauded.

Many municipalities and public bodies have sent addresses of congratulation to the King and the Government.

It is stated that the Pope, replying to an address presented on Tuesday, by several visitors, expressed confidence in the final triumph of the Church, and protested against all idea of coming to an understanding with Italy.

SPAIN.

A telegram from the Governor of Havannah announces that some medical students profaned the cemetery in which had been interred the remains of a Spanish journalist named Castanon, who was killed last year in a duel with an American, through a dispute in which Castanon supported the Spanish domination in Cuba. A council of war had condemned several of the students to the galleys, and eight to death. The latter were immediately executed. This event had created a deep impression in Havannah, and the commandants of the Havannah volunteers had been obliged to address their men, promising them a strict and prompt official inquiry. The *Correspondencia* believes the above statement to be exaggerated.

The authorities have discovered, in the prison of the Saladero, at Madrid, several documents relative to robberies both effected and projected, and also false stamps and seals of the Madrid tribunals, as well as of the departments of small arms and commissariat. False seals of several of the Ministries and foreign Embassies were also discovered, and a stamp for heading paper used by the Empress Eugénie for private correspondence. Ten persons in the prison are known to be implicated, and they have other accomplices in Spain and abroad.

BELGIUM.

The excitement in Brussels has continued more or less day by day all this week, but is believed to be now cooling down, owing, in a great measure, to the resignation of M. Dedeker and its acceptance by the King. Cries for the resignation of the Ministers also were made outside the Chamber, before the public offices, and even in front of the Royal palace. Though the *Indépendance Belge* asserts that the King commissioned M. Thonissen to form a new Cabinet, no mention of the present Ministry having resigned was made in the Chamber on Wednesday. On the contrary, the Minister of the Interior stated that he should remain at his post so long as he had the support of the majority of the House. It appears, however, that M. Thonissen was consulted by the King, but failed to form a Ministry, whereupon his Majesty summoned M. Scholloert and Count de Theux to organise a Cabinet. Dissatisfaction is said to be prevalent among the Civic Guard. The burgomaster has issued an order prohibiting the assembling of crowds in front of the Chamber.

A deputation of Liberals from Ghent arrived in Brussels on Wednesday, and presented an address to M. Bara at his residence. The deputation was much cheered by the people. At the meeting of the Communal Council of Brussels, on Monday, a report on the

demonstrations was read by the Burgomaster. The report mentioned that, on Friday week, when popular excitement appeared to be increasing, the Civic Guard were, for the first time in twenty-five years, summoned by beat of drum, and that every man responded to the appeal. Scarcely any damage was done by the crowd; and the police, generally, behaved with much tact and moderation. An inquiry has been instituted into the conduct of those who, owing to a misunderstanding or some other cause, made use of their arms without justification, and wounded one of the citizens.

GERMANY.

Prince Bismarck is ill, and has for the last week been unable to attend the sittings in Parliament. A report also comes from Berlin that the Emperor is unwell, but has not been confirmed.

In the German Parliament, on Tuesday, the bill for preventing the abuse of the pulpit by the clergy passed its third reading by a large majority.

The Government has submitted to the Federal Council a bill fixing the amount of the Military Budget for the financial period of three years—namely, for 1872, 1873, and 1874. The strength of the German army on a peace footing is to be 401,639 men, and the annual expenditure for the maintenance of this force is fixed at 20,373,275 thalers, of which 10,851,900 thalers will have to be borne by Bavaria. The Federal Council is reported to have given its sanction to these estimates.

The Prussian Diet was opened on Monday by the Emperor. His Imperial Majesty commenced his speech by thanking the people for the noble attitude they had maintained during the late war, and then went on to congratulate the Diet on the very satisfactory financial condition of the country, and to enumerate the principal measures to be brought forward for its consideration. In reference to the agitation on Church questions, his Majesty said his Government were determined to preserve perfect independence for the State, to maintain the legal independence of the Churches, and to protect liberty of conscience and of faith to all.

The semi-official *Provincial Correspondent* calls attention to the repeated murders of German soldiers in France and the impunity of the murderers, and concludes by saying that the dishonourable course of the French people and of the French tribunals is not only a subject of serious consideration, but also of the most important practical significance.

A misunderstanding has arisen between Germany and Brazil, in consequence of the maltreatment of some officers of the former in a disturbance at Rio. It has afforded Germany an opportunity of displaying her power at sea, and orders have been sent to Kiel for the fitting out of three warships to proceed to Brazil and back up the German demand for reparation.

AUSTRIA.

The new Austrian Ministry took the oaths of office last Saturday. An Imperial decree was issued the same day dissolving the Diets of Upper Austria, Carinthia, Bukovina, Moravia, and Vornalberg, and ordering fresh elections to be held immediately. The Diets are to meet on Dec. 18.

Prince Adolph Auerberg, the new Prime Minister, was born in 1821, and is now fifty-one. He began life as a soldier, entering the service at an early age, and continuing in it as Major in the Prince Eugene Dragoons up to a comparatively recent date. His name was definitely struck from the Army List only in the spring of 1870, on his appointment to the Governorship of Salzburg. The Minister's political career commenced in February, 1867, when he was returned as a member of the Bohemian Diet by the landed interest of that province. Ten months later, on Count Hartig's resignation, he was appointed President of the Bohemian Diet (Oberland Marshal), continuing in that office till 1870, and distinguishing himself by competent and energetic administration, siding, however, strongly with the Germans. In January, 1869, he was nominated life member of the Upper Chamber, in the discussions of which he has since taken a conspicuous part. His appointment to the governorship of Salzburg caused great dissatisfaction to the allied parties of Federalists and Catholics, who emphatically demanded his dismissal. Throughout his term of office he remained strictly faithful to the Constitution, and opposed even the slightest deviation from the established laws. His brother, Prince Carlos, has been Prime Minister before him. If it is an exceptional thing for two brothers to fill successively the same office, it is still more remarkable that two sisters should likewise successively do the honours at the Ministerial residence; the present Prime Minister's wife, a lady of the noble house of Festetics, being the sister of Princess Carlos.

TURKEY.

It is officially announced that considerable reductions will be made in the Budget of the War Department. The positive savings effected upon the general Budget of the empire already exceed a million sterling.

The question of a judicial convention between Russia and the Porte is in course of arrangement. The Porte is favourable to it, upon condition that some modifications are introduced into the scheme, and that its consent be specified in the convention. Russia declares that it has no desire to interfere with the sovereign rights of the Porte.

MURDER OF A FAMILY.—A letter from Louisville states that on the morning of the 12th inst. five members of a family named Parks were found murdered in their house near Henryville, Indiana. The family consisted of Cyrus M. Parks, his wife Isabella, his son John, aged ten years; and his daughters—Eveline, aged seventeen, and Ellen, aged fifteen. The heads of all were terribly beaten and crushed by some blunt instrument. The daughters were found sitting in the kitchen alive, but delirious and fatally hurt. There is no clue to the perpetrators.

THE ENGINEERING TRADE.—The Amalgamated Society of Engineers lately entered upon its twenty-first year. The annual report, just issued by Mr. Allan, the secretary, states that the engineering trade has never been more prosperous, and there are more orders on hand than ever before. The society now numbers 27,000 members, and has a capital in hand of £105,000. Of this sum £50,000 has been set aside during the past quarter, and so great is the influx of new members, combined with the prosperous condition of trade, that next quarter the society will not be between £10,000 and £11,000. Out of the whole number of members there are only 250 out of employment throughout the country.

"HOME RULE" FOR SCOTLAND.—Sir David Wedderburn, M.P., read a paper on Monday night to the Scottish Law Amendment Society on "Impediments to Scotch Legislation." These impediments, he said, were—1. The insufficient share of Parliamentary time and attention which Scotland obtained. 2. The fact that Scotland was legislated for by an Assembly ignorant of her condition and requirements. 3. The want of efficient arrangements for giving Scotland the benefit of United Kingdom legislation; and, 4. The absence of official representation for Scotland, either in the Cabinet or the House of Lords. He deprecated the practice of holding so-called "Scotch Parliaments," as being secret, irresponsible assemblies, and observed that a duly constituted grand committee of all the Scotch members, publicly debating Scotch measures, would not be open to the same objection. He had gradually become convinced that not only must Imperial measures always have precedence of Scotch measures, but that Scotland could never hope to compete successfully with England even for the small fraction of Parliamentary time to which her number of representatives entitled her. The society appointed a committee to report on the subject, with reference more particularly to private bills.—*Scotman.*

CARDINAL CULLEN ON CATHOLIC GRIEVANCES.—At a meeting in Dublin on the education question Cardinal Cullen said:—"They pronounced for Catholic schools, Catholic teachers, Catholic books, everything Catholic in the education of their children. The great fight of the present day was about non-sectarian schools. They called them mixed schools here; in England they have adopted the words 'sectarian' and 'non-sectarian.' They wished to force these schools on Catholics. What was the meaning of those non-sectarian schools? Schools in which the children of every religion were congregated together; Protestants, Catholics, Presbyterians, Jews, infidels, were all put together, and there was nothing to be taught in the school which would be calculated to offend the opinions of any of those classes. So all religious, all Catholic teaching should be banished from these schools. They could not speak there of the Catholic Church—of the Pope—of the sign of the Cross—of the religious orders—of the blessed Eucharist—of confession, &c. And that was the education which their supposed Liberal friends and those Nonconformists were endeavouring to force upon this country! But as long as the priests and the people were united in their determination to have Catholic education for this Catholic country, those systems which were calculated to spread infidelity through the land would never be introduced into Ireland."

DR. LIVINGSTONE.

At the second meeting of the Royal Geographical Society for the session 1871-2, held on Monday evening, the president, Sir Henry C. Rawlinson, said:—"Knowing the great interest always felt by this society as to the receipt of any intelligence with regard to Dr. Livingstone, perhaps, before proceeding with the regular business of the evening, I may be permitted to read a letter which has been received to-day, addressed by Dr. Kirk to our late lamented president, Sir Roderick Murchison. You will doubtless, many of you, have observed in the newspapers of this morning that intelligence has been received with regard to a collision which had taken place between the Arabs and native Africans. That letter of Dr. Kirk only alludes cursorily to that matter, but states its probable effect upon Dr. Livingstone. I may state that the despatches referred to in the letter I am about to read have not yet been received at the Foreign Office. Many of you, which is alluded to, is, you will remember, the place where Dr. Livingstone was last year." The letter is as follows:—

"Zanzibar, Sept. 25, 1871.

"Dear Sir Roderick.—You will see by the account sent to the Foreign Office that difficulties have sprung up in Unyamwezi, and cut off Ujiji from the coast, and as it happens no Ujiji news has been received for some time back. One may now be a long time in getting any certainty of Dr. Livingstone's movements. All I can say is that by last reports from that place neither he nor his Arab friend, Mahomed Bi Ghavily, had arrived; but there was a story, which I think worthless, to the effect that they were both to go round the south end by way of Wembu. I can yet get no certain account of Manyema. Everyone knows it, but I find no one who has been there. I have seen people who have crossed the Tanganyika from Ujiji and seen the Manyema caravan setting out, but it seems to be rather a new and special line of trade. I am glad that the Governor of Manyema is to be removed. He is the one on whom the war is laid, and if he had been killed we should all have been better satisfied. Mr. Stanley was at Manyema and in the fight, but the Arabs abandoned him. Four of his men were killed, but he escaped. His prospect of getting on at present small, but I really cannot say where he desires to go to. He never disclosed his plans here. I send up letters for Dr. Livingstone to his care, and put also the things (of the second lot, the first has reached Ujiji) for Livingstone into his hands. I fancy he will make a point of meeting Livingstone first; but whether, having seen what is best to do, he will push on or come back, I cannot say. He was ill of fever when he wrote, but has got on tolerably well. The men who came down return to-morrow, and ought to be there in twenty-five days, for the road is free of grass and food plenty.—Believe me, dear Sir Roderick, yours very sincerely, "JOHN KIRK."

The president proceeded to say that he hoped at the next meeting to be in a position to read the Foreign Office despatches alluded to in the letter of Dr. Kirk. That letter was now two months old, and it contained the last tidings which had been received of Dr. Livingstone. It was possible, however, that before the next meeting further tidings would be received.

A gentleman in the body of the hall said that Captain Burton, who was present, had been in the district alluded to by Dr. Kirk, and could perhaps give them some interesting information.

Captain F. K. Burton.—"I have been called upon rather suddenly to answer a very comprehensive question. It is not the first time that disturbances have taken place between the Arabs of the interior and the Africans; but in my opinion there will be no difficulty whatever in Dr. Livingstone returning by the south of the lake. Of course, these disturbances may last two or three years, in which case he might not be able to march; but, at the same time, I believe that a white man could—and especially a man like Dr. Livingstone, who knows the Africans better than any man alive, and who speaks the different languages—pass where no other man, black or white, could. I have not the slightest reason to despair of Dr. Livingstone. The moment anything happens you will hear it in this room as if it came by telegram."

THE DIAMOND-FIELDS OF SOUTH AFRICA.

On Monday evening, at the Royal Polytechnic, Regent-street, the promise of an illustrated lecture on the interesting subject of the diamond-fields of South Africa, by Mr. Tobin, who has just returned from an exploring trip, drew together a very large audience, and the fulfilment of the promise presents an entirely new feature at this entertaining institution. The lecture was given in the large theatre, and occupied a position between the many other instructive and entertaining subjects presented; and when Professor Pepper introduced Mr. Tobin, a former lecturer of the institution, who had travelled to and from South Africa as a captain of a band of explorers, the warm welcome the lecturer received evidenced that he had not been forgotten, and that he had an eager and sympathetic audience. The lecturer commenced by reminding his audience that, when news of the diamond discoveries and some of the results reached England, an expedition was fitted out under Mr. Streeter, who thus maintained the reputation of London for enterprise by sending out to so remote a spot in search of the precious gems. After narrating some of the circumstances which induced him to become the captain of the explorers, the theatre was darkened, and an illuminated map of the journey was shown, the different routes were marked out, the cost and modes of travelling were detailed, and the features of the country travelled over were touched upon, so as to place all the facts before his hearers. The lecturer then described the nature of the soil of the diamond-fields, showing it to have been at some prehistoric time the bed of an ocean acted upon by volcanic fire, and it was in the soil marked by these eruptions, he said, where the richest gems were found. The geological formation of the beds of the Orange and Vaal rivers next formed the subject of the lecturer's remarks, and he aroused the deep interest of his audience by narrating how brilliant stones, glistening in the tropical sun, burst upon the sight of the new-comer, who, however, soon found that these shining lights of the earth were of little commercial value, being but jaspers, garnets, agates, and the like, and were little regarded by diamond-seekers. The audience then had presented to them many sketches, illuminated by the lime light, of places of interest in the first "finds," the history of which he quoted from the *Times*; and, touching upon the composition of the gem, he stated that proof of its being nothing more chemically than a mere piece of carbon would be demonstrated before them. Professor Pepper here stepped forward and said that, in order to give Mr. Tobin a little time for rest in what was to him then, having just come from a warm climate, a most trying period, owing to the November fogs, he himself would exhibit the burning of a gem. The Professor took three bottles, in one of which he burnt a taper to create carbon, the second he filled with oxygen gas, and in the third he placed some water which he carbonised by air from his lungs. He took an uncut diamond, placed it in a platinum cage, and made it red hot by means of the oxyhydrogen blowpipe, and when it was placed in the second bottle, that filled with the oxygen gas, it burnt for several minutes, in the darkened theatre, with a brilliant glow. He placed lime water in the bottles and poured a few drops of acid into each bottle, and the carbon in each vessel was the same—had been resolved into one element. Mr. Tobin then resumed his lecture, and gave an amusing and interesting account of the history of the diamond "finds," the manner of working, and he illustrated his remarks by referring to some further sketches he had made during his travels. At the end of the lecture specimens of diamonds, garnets, rubies, and other precious stone formations were shown, from the stones themselves, on the illuminated disk, the specimens being lent by Mr. Streeter. Some beautiful diamonds in the rough—one of the very few coloured stones at present known to have been found in South Africa, in itself an exquisite gem—were also exhibited by the same gentleman. The lecturer was heartily applauded, and he promised to add to the interest of his address on future occasions by exhibiting on the disk photographs obtained by him on his journey.

GREAT STATESMEN ON INTERNATIONAL ARBITRATION.

The principle of the motion to be brought before Parliament next Session by Mr. Henry Richard, M.P., is one which the ablest statesmen have already virtually approved. The following are a few instances:—

Napoleon I.:—"I had a project for general peace by drawing all the Powers to an immense reduction of their standing armies. And then, perhaps, as intelligence became universally diffused, one might be permitted to dream of the application, to the great European family, of an institution like the American Congress, or that of the Amphictyony in Greece; and then what a perspective before us of greatness, of happiness, of prosperity—what a grand and magnificent spectacle! However that may be, this agglomeration of European peoples must arrive sooner or later. The impulse is already given, and I do not think, after my fall, and the disappearance of my system, that any balance of power will be possible in Europe, but this union and federation of the great nations."

The Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate of the United States, in February, 1853:—"Resolved, That the Senate advise the President to secure, whenever it may be practicable, a stipulation in all treaties hereafter entered into with other nations providing for the adjustment of any misunderstanding or controversy which may arise between the contracting parties by referring the same to the decision of disinterested and impartial arbitrators, to be mutually chosen."

Mr. Gladstone, on referring to the settlement of the dangerous quarrel between Turkey and Greece, in 1869, through the intervention in Crete:—"Here is a case in which two Powers, exasperated by traditional animosities, were on the point of resorting to the arbitration of force and bloodshed, and yet in which the employment of a purely moral interference has been sufficient to avert the calamities of war. Now, I am quite convinced that, if both sides of this House are animated by one sentiment more unequivocally than another, it is by the wish that we should make progress in gradually establishing in Europe a state of opinion which should favour a common action of the Powers to avert the terrible calamity of war."

Lord Clarendon, in answer to a memorial from the Peace Society, in 1869, said "that he fully concurred with the committee in this opinion, that it is desirable to have recourse to arbitration wherever practicable, for the adjustment of international differences, and is glad to believe that the principle of arbitration is becoming recognised as the most honourable and equitable solution of many difficult and important questions."

The Earl of Derby:—"Unhappily, there is no international tribunal to which cases of this kind can be referred, and there is no international law by which parties can be required to refer cases. If such a tribunal existed it would be a great benefit to the civilised world."

M. JULES JANIN.

This distinguished French critic, who has recently been installed in his chair in the Academy, was born, Dec. 11, 1804, at St. Etienne (Loire), where his father was a provincial barrister. He commenced his studies in the college of his native town, and completed them in Paris, at the College of Louis-le-Grand. After this, he remained in Paris, and, having neither profession nor fortune, took up his quarters in a garret in the Rue du Dragon, in the Quartier Latin, and there assisted young gentlemen in "cramming" for their degrees. Jules Janin has vividly sketched this humble period of his life. But he soon renounced this occupation for journalism. He first obtained employment upon a theatrical paper, and soon after became one of the editors of the *Figaro*, and subsequently editor of the *Quotidienne*. Parting company with the latter, he founded, in company with some other writers of mark, the *Revue de Paris* and the *Journal des Enfants*. Shortly afterwards he published his first romance, "L'Ange mort et la Femme Guilloitée." But his most successful productions are his tales, essays, and sketches. Jules Janin married a rich heiress, and on the occasion wrote a singular article in the "feuilleton" of the *Debats*, entitled "Le Mariage du Critique," which gained him for a long time in the public journals the name of the "married critic." He has a ready pen, and during the last forty years has produced an almost incredible number of articles for the journals, besides having written and edited a number of works of a less ephemeral character. In 1816 he published an abridged translation of Richardson's "Clarissa Harlowe." M. Janin still continues—or did until very lately—to exercise his vocation of strict but genial critic of all matters theatrical, artistic, and literary; and it is to be hoped that he will live long to occupy the fauteuil formerly filled by another great critic, the late M. St. Beuve.

DINING WITH M. LEON SAY.

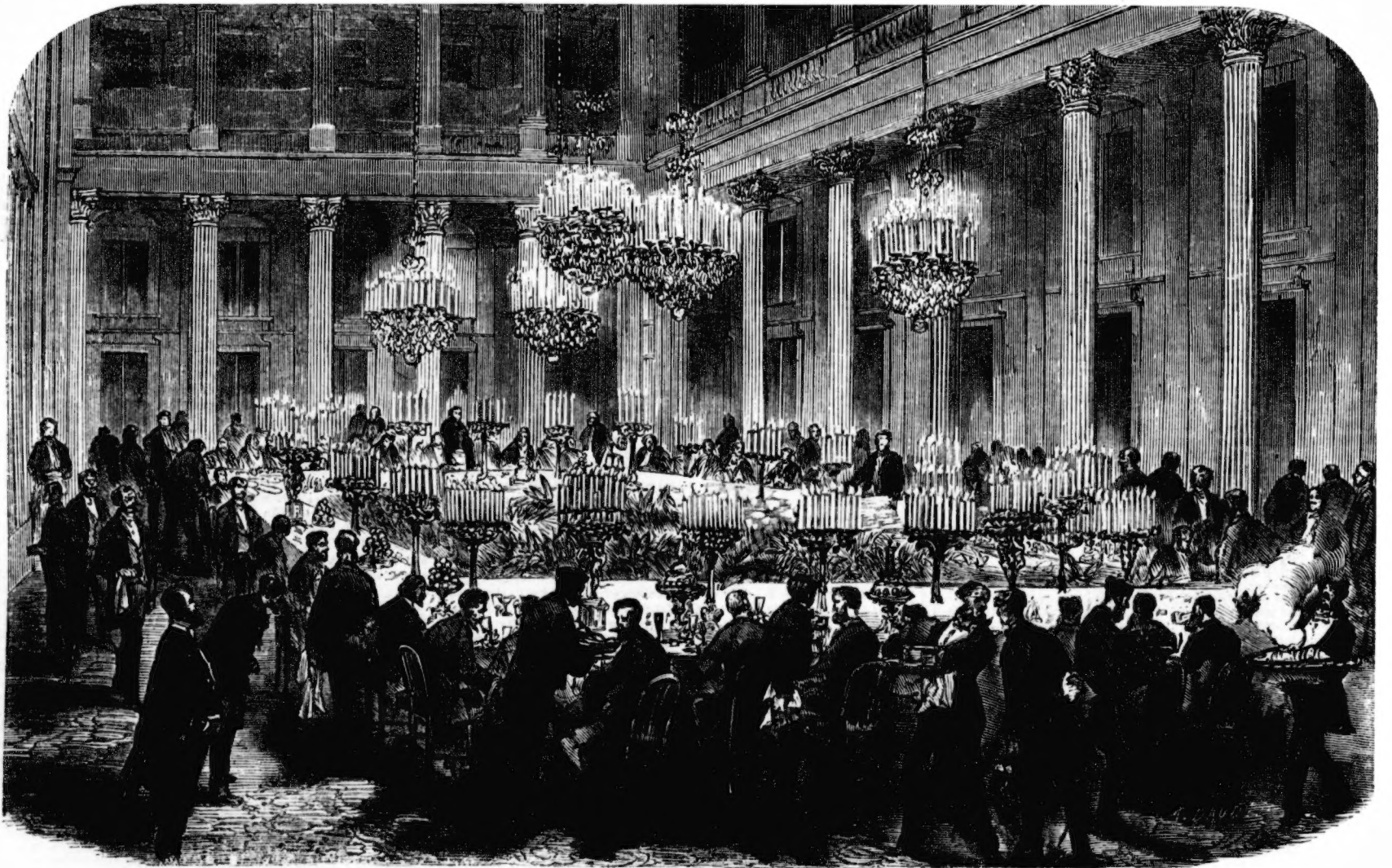
STIMULATED, perhaps, by the hospitalities of which he was the object at the Mansion House, under the presidency of our late Lord Mayor, the Prefect of the Seine, M. Léon Say, has lost no time in inaugurating similar expressions of goodwill on his return to Paris, and a grand banquet to the members of the council under his presidency has been the result. As one leg of mutton is like another, so there is little variety in grand banquets; but there is a difference between a "gigot" from a Scotch black-faced sheep, and a haunch from a Southdown, or a ponderous mass of unctuous meat from a prime Leicester; so that the dinner of ceremony in the "Cour d'Honneur" of the Paris Tribunal of Commerce had its own characteristics of luxury. To begin with, the hall was brilliantly lighted, and the lobbies of the magnificent building (which stands at the corner of the Rue de Sébastopol, opposite the Palais de Justice) were covered with sumptuous carpets. The banqueting-room was illuminated with five great lustres, and immense candelabra were placed upon the table, which was circular, and capable of accommodating a hundred guests on the outer side of the circle, the inner space being filled with a kind of carpet of plants and flowers. The effect was certainly splendid, and, when the table was arranged, left nothing to be desired but the guests and the dinner. The former were received by M. Say in the Hall of Adjunctions, where the Council of the Prefecture holds its sittings since the burning of the Hôtel de Ville, and at half-past eight the banquet was served, the places on the right and left of the president being occupied by M. Littré, Vice-President of the General Council and deputy of the department of the Seine, and M. Drouin, President of the Tribunal of Commerce. Opposite the president, M. Vautrain, President of the General Council, took the place of honour. There were, of course, all the luxuries of the season, and a great many more; and then serious speechmaking set in, quite after our own Britanic fashion. As the French reporters have it, "At the issue of the banquet, M. Léon Say carried the toast to the President of the Republic," and his speech was responded to with "applaudissements prolongés." He was followed by M. Vautrain, who, in turn, carried a toast to M. Léon Say, "L'homme sympathique à tous, a-t-il dit, et qui a su conquérir l'estime de tout le monde."

Then followed more orations, most of them in one respect admirable, for they had the great merit of French post-prandial speeches, and were short, as well as expressive. By half-past eleven the affair was over. Three hours saw the business well through, and so the flowers, the lights, and the guests were fresh and brilliant to the last.

LEGAL EDUCATION.—Sir Roundell Palmer on Wednesday presided over the annual meeting of the Legal Education Association. The report of the executive committee, which consisted of an exhaustive résumé of the labours of the association and of the results of their efforts, was adopted. It was incidentally stated that all four Inns of Court had recognised the necessity of a compulsory examination as a condition of admission to the Bar, and the Inner Temple Benchers had devoted a sum of £2000 a year to the payment of additional lecturers and tutors for the exclusive benefit of their own students.



M. JULES JANIN, THE NEW MEMBER OF THE FRENCH ACADEMY.



DINNER GIVEN BY M. LEON SAY TO THE PARIS MUNICIPAL COUNCIL AND THE MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL-GENERAL OF THE SEINE.



THE FRENCH REPUBLICAN GUARD: NEW ONE-HORSE CANNON.

NEW UNIFORMS OF THE PARIS REPUBLICAN GUARD.

THE revival of military organisation in Paris has, of course, been inaugurated by the adoption of a new uniform for the "Garde Républicaine;" and an imposing costume it is, suggestive of a composite order of decoration, which reaches its culminating point in the helmet, where the romanesque casque is at once surmounted by the regulation "shaving-brush," and, besides the lateral addition of the fuzzy feather which suggests an implement for cleaning the inside of decanters, is supplemented by a horse-tail hanging from the back. The tunic, again, is something between that of a cavalry officer and a forester or huntsman, while

the high boots lend an additional likeness to the two uniforms. The Parisians have had an opportunity of criticising the new dress, however, and it cannot be denied that on parade its appearance is remarkably effective, and elicited deserved encomiums from a great crowd which assembled in the Champs Elysées to witness the muster of the newly-organised corps of Paris. They consisted of the Republican guard of infantry, which was the first to adopt the uniform, and amounts to about 2600 men; the Cavalry Republican Guard (represented in our illustration), of whom there are seventeen squadrons; the 8th Regiment of Hussars (formerly Chasseurs d'Afrique), the 4th and the 8th Regiments of Dragoons, the 8th Regiment of Cuirassiers, and the 4th Regiment of Artillery, with two batteries. These troops were drawn up in the Champs

Elysées, the Avenue d'Alma, and the Cours la Reine, under the inspection of General Ladmirault, Governor of Paris; General Cissay, Minister of War; Generals Barrail (commander of cavalry, and De Geslin (in command of the parade), with a brilliant staff.

Having passed at a gallop before the front, General Cissay resumed his place at the foot of the Marly horses and gave the order for a march past by companies and squadrons. The Republican Guard took the pas, headed by their band, under M. Paulus, and each regiment was preceded by a battery of small field guns, drawn by one horse and attended by six men, an innovation which, together with the appearance and drill of the men, seemed to meet with great approval from the critical crowd who watched the evolutions.



UNIFORMS OF THE NEW FRENCH REPUBLICAN GUARD.

EXECUTION OF ROSSEL AND FERRE.

The first blood of the Communist prisoners was shed on Tuesday at Satory. Rosset, Ferré, and Bourgeois, a sergeant of the 45th Regiment, were all shot. Bourgeois was the first to know his fate. At four a.m. he was marched from the Chantiers Prison, Versailles, to the Central Prison, in which Rosset and Ferré were confined. Though not told so, he guessed that his hour had come, and, asking for a cigar, smoked and drank wine tranquilly in his cell, while the other prisoners were being awakened. The advocate Albert Joly aroused Rosset from a sound sleep. Rosset said, "Friend, is it for this morning?" Upon being answered in the affirmative, he begged to be left alone for a few minutes, but this request was refused. Rosset then dressed rapidly, and embraced Albert Joly. The Protestant minister Passa prayed with him.

Ferré jumped from bed at a bound, was half an hour dressing, and made a careful toilette. He declined, but not rudely, the services of the prison chaplain, the Abbé Follet. At half past seven three ambulance carriages, commanded by Chef d'Escadron Crenitz, proceeded to Satory. Six thousand troops were present on the execution parade, and the sad task devolved on Colonel Merlin, who condemned Rosset and Ferré, to see his own sentence carried out.

The morning was very cold and foggy. Scarcely fifty civilians were present, and, as they kept outside the large military square, they could see nothing. Three posts, six feet high and twenty yards apart, were erected opposite the artillery butts. Against each of these posts a prisoner was placed—Rosset on the left, Bourgeois in the centre, and Ferré on the right. By what may be called either a refinement of cruelty or an exemplary retribution, the firing party selected to shoot Rosset were men of his own regiment. The prisoners were not tied to the posts, but stood erect, with their backs against them. Ferré puffed a cigar rapidly while the Registrar read the judgment. Rosset begged leave to give the command to fire, but was refused. He then asked to be allowed to shake hands with an old friend, an artillery officer. This request was also refused. He then threw off his hat and paletot, and suffered his eyes to be bandaged, and rubbed his hands to keep them warm. Bourgeois was also bandaged; but Ferré said he could look death in the face, and no handkerchief was put on him. On the firing party taking up their position Rosset said a few words to M. Passa, who, in a loud voice, addressed Colonel Merlin as follows:—"Colonel Merlin, Rosset has requested me, and it is his last wish, to tell you that his judges have done their duty, since they believe they have done it, and that he would like if they were there to shake them by the hand."

As the soldiers fired, thirty-six shots went off at once. Rosset fell backwards, quite dead; Ferré, whom several balls missed, twisted about in agony, and was finished by a shot close to his ear. The coup de grâce was also given to Bourgeois. Then, pursuant to a shocking custom, the regiments marched past the bleeding corpses, the bands playing polkas and opera tunes. The bodies of Rosset and Ferré were claimed and given up to their families. Bourgeois alone was interred in one of three graves dug in St. Louis Cemetery.

The *Gaulois* of Tuesday's date contains some details of Rosset's life and conduct, written before his fate was certainly known. Rosset was but twenty-seven years of age. He was born at St. Brienne, in Brittany, his father being a Frenchman, a soldier, and his mother a Scotchwoman—a Campbell. He had two sisters, one aged twenty, and the other, Sarah, aged twelve, his favourite, whom he used to call his little baby. It states that after pronouncing their decision the members of the Commission of Pardons left Versailles on Sunday. Rosset's father made an appeal to the President of the Commission, M. Martel, which must have been painful in the extreme for both parties, but the details have not been made known. Rosset himself, whose energy and calm reflection had been in no degree shaken by his danger, himself prevented any useful interference, for he wrote a week ago to M. Thiers, stating in substance:—

"I know that attempts are being made to save my life. I am not insensible to these attempts, for which I thank the Commission and the President. But I hold with unbending determination that life should not be purchased at the price of dishonour. So, if you cannot grant me two things—life and non-degradation—take my life; I care no longer for it. I declare to you that I would never forgive any one, no matter whom, who should inflict on me a degradation to which I will not submit. My frankness must not offend the President, for it is better to speak out and be understood."

On Sunday Rosset and Ferré were visited by a legal functionary who took down an exact account of their birth, parentage, and careers in life. They understood that it was a preparation for death, and Rosset called the attention of his pastor, M. Passa, to the civil garments which he had laid upon his bed, and observed, "You see that when I shall bare my breast and exclaim, 'Fire there,' it will be my own shirt, and not that of the prison." He then handed to M. Passa a copy of his little book, entitled "The Defence of Metz, and the Struggle to the End," with this inscription, "To M. Th. Passa, minister of the Reformed religion—a testimony of gratitude and friendship, L. Rosset;" and there was added the verse from Job iv., "Behold, thou hast instructed many, and thou hast strengthened the weak hands." Up to Friday last Rosset had only seen the members of his family through the bars which separate prisoners from their visitors on the occasions when interviews are permitted. M. Passa obtained from the authorities permission for Rosset to take his last farewell of his relatives in the cell where prisoners see their counsel. The director of the prison and the pastor were present, and the scene was intensely painful. The father, resisting his own impatience, thrust forward the mother and the two sisters into the arms of his son, who, pressing the hands of each in turn, exclaimed "Take them, take them; alas! I have but two;" and then, to conceal his tears, he buried his face in his hands, and his bosom swelled with suppressed emotion. "I love them so dearly," said he to the pastor, when they had quitted him; "my poor parents; poor Sarah!" Before leaving, the father had blessed his son, adding, "God be with you, and keep you!" "Yes, father," replied Rosset, "may God be with us—with you!" "We will come again to-morrow." "Oh, to-morrow!" said Rosset, in a grave and broken tone. It was then that, filled with sinister presentiments, the father saw M. Thiers upon his return from Rouen. On the following night (Sunday), as it was feared that the execution might be fixed for Monday, M. Rosset, son, left his house and went to that of Pastor Passa, in order to assure himself that his attendance was not required for that day. The family still nursed hopes—the father, mother, sisters, all in turn hastening hither and thither, making supplication, which, while it broke their hearts, brought no advantage to him for whom they laboured. The last days of the prisoner were marked with the same calm courage that he has displayed throughout, reading "Charles XII.," Corneille, Calvin, whom he passionately revered, Schiller's "Thirty Years' War," "Tennyson's Poems" in English, and an old book of prayers peculiar to the Cevennes, the home of his paternal ancestors. He made his will and left special legacies—that is, of notes and writings, for Rosset never lived a life of pleasure. The prison authorities had entertained fears lest he should have recourse to suicide; and when M. Passa referred to this Rosset answered, "I commit suicide! that would be to end like a love-stricken barber." As the governor of the prison still seemed uneasy upon the point, Rosset took up a strip of glass which he had picked up in the exercise-yard and observed, "That would have been sufficient had I any intention of suicide;" and then, placing the glass in a piece of paper, he handed it to the governor, adding, "Have no fear; I shall die in open day." His last days were spent in study, and his conversation turned upon the most serious subjects. "The Benedictine's life is a fine one," said he. "This cell is a complete future if it were not so narrow and so near to eternity." His simple behaviour, free from all boasting, excited the respect of all, and justifies the saying of M. Barthélemy de St. Hilaire that "Rosset is a man whose hand

we grasp even when we shoot him." Ferré is described as being feverish and excited, and even when he seems calm it is evidently but an assumption. His bearing, however, has become somewhat mollified since he has had the advantages of the Abbé Follet's services. To an inquiry whether he expected to obtain any confession, or to reconcile him with Heaven, the Abbé replied, "Possibly. If you knew the sudden changes which sometimes occur in these untamed minds!" During the last few days Ferré has written many letters to M. Thiers and the Ministers, endeavouring to procure some advantages for his brother, a convict like himself, but who has become insane. It is an unhappy family, the Ferrés. The father also is a prisoner at the hulks. His daughter was arrested, and only released in time to reach the death-bed of her mother, who died broken-hearted and insane. Since then Mdlle. Ferré has acted bravely, working hard all the week to earn 20f. to give to her brother. On Saturday last she brought him the affectionate offering, and "Alas!" said the Abbé Follet, "I dared not tell her that her brother would not want it."

The *Constitution* publishes some interesting details of Rosset's last moments. It says that as early as half-past four in the morning M. Albert Joly, the counsel of Rosset, entered the cell in which the prisoner was confined to announce to him that his last hour had arrived. Rosset was asleep. M. Joly and the governor of the prison approached the bed, and the light, falling upon the sleeper's eyes, awoke him. "Ah!" he exclaimed, in a clear voice. "Is it for this morning?" "Yes," replied M. Joly. "At what time?" "At seven." "And it is now?" "Five." Five! M. Joly had promised to arouse Rosset three hours before the execution took place, but his courage had failed him, and he had put off the visit as long as possible. Rosset thereupon asked the governor of the prison to be allowed a quarter of an hour to himself. This request was refused. The governor considered that his personal responsibility was involved, and that he was bound not to lose sight of the prisoner for an instant. Rosset thereupon began to dress himself.

"I am about to leave my room in sad disorder," he said. "I hope you will touch nothing, so that my relatives may find everything exactly as I leave it. They will put things straight. My mother and my dear sisters know my habits, and will see to everything."

He then took from a small parcel a clean shirt, which he put on in place of that made of coarse linen belonging to the prison. "It is not worth while," he said, smilingly, to the governor. "That the prison authorities should lose a shirt. I may as well die in my own." He finished dressing, and then asked M. Albert Joly, who had left the cell, to return, and the two sat on the bed side by side, and conversed for about a quarter of an hour. Rosset was calm and serious. He spoke of various matters with his habitual clearness of judgment, but tears came to his eyes as he alluded to his parents and his sisters, from whom he was so soon to be separated on earth. He was especially anxious, too, with regard to the future of France. "You are a Republican," he said to M. Joly. "Bear this in mind; if you do not soon reorganise the army, the army will overthrow the Republic. I die for the civic rights of the soldier."

At half-past five M. Passa, the Protestant minister, arrived. M. Albert Joly again withdrew; with a gesture of authority Rosset dismissed the governor himself, closed the door, and remained alone with the chaplain. At ten minutes past six Rosset reopened the door of his cell and called M. Joly. "I have done with spiritual matters," he said gaily, "we can now talk a little together." Rosset gave M. Joly a box of chocolate for his little girl, and begged him not to forget a photograph which he had promised to a friend. Seeing that both his visitors were in tears, he endeavoured to console them, and embraced them. Then he called the governor of the prison, who was in the corridors attending to the final arrangements. "Yours," he said, in a soft voice, "is a painful profession, and I am grateful to you for the kindness with which you have fulfilled your duty towards me. Will you permit me to embrace you as a sign of my gratitude?" The governor shed tears, and it was the same with the gendarmes, the gendarmes, and all who were near. It was now nearly seven; the time for departure had arrived, and the Commandant of the Versailles Gendarmerie, M. Arnot, said so to Rosset. "I am ready," was the reply. At this moment a rattling of chains was heard, and Rosset shuddered. A gendarme approached for the purpose of handcuffing him, according to custom. "Is it really necessary?" asked Rosset, somewhat affected. M. Joly protested, and by way of a compromise the governor allowed only one handcuff to be used. The gendarme who had to put it on was so blinded by his tears that he bungled at his work, and was taken somewhat sharply to task by the governor. "Spare the poor fellow," said Rosset very gently, "you have given him such an unpleasant task. Don't blame him if he trembles a little; as for me, I esteem him." The time for departure had now come. Rosset, in taking leave of M. Joly, forbade him to follow to the place of execution, and said, "I thank you all those who tried to save me. Tell them to continue to defend me after my death; and let them not fear they will be mistaken if they declare that my only motive—my sole ambition—was to recommence the war." He then proceeded to the door at which the conveyances for the condemned men were waiting.

A FORGED TELEGRAM.—A daring forgery, for stock-jobbing purposes, was perpetrated last week. A telegram, to which the name of the secretary of the Sheffield, Lancashire, and Lincolnshire Railway Company was forged, was handed in the Midland-street station, Manchester, shortly after twelve o'clock on Friday, Nov. 24. It was addressed to the Stock Exchanges in London, Glasgow, Liverpool, and Leeds, and to the principal London newspapers, and it announced that the Midland had arranged to take over the Sheffield company on a lease, upon terms which were briefly set forth. The telegram was, of course, received as official; and the shares of the Sheffield Company went up, while those of the Midland experienced a slight fall. On the Manchester Stock Exchange there were many transactions in Sheffield stock before the truth was known. The Sheffield company and the committee of the Manchester Stock Exchange offer rewards of £500 for the discovery of the person who handed in the forged telegram. The *Financial*, commenting on the forgery, says:—"Were not the matter too serious for a joke, it would be ludicrous to remark how much business men are at the mercy of lying telegrams. When telegraphs are lodged for despatch by persons professing to hold an official capacity, such persons ought to be required to produce evidence of identity."

A SCHOOL BOARD DIFFICULTY.—The town of Sunderland is separated into hostile camps through a difficulty that has arisen in the school board. At the election of that board, a year ago, the Churchmen, Catholics, and Wesleyans were in a decided majority; and, upon the subsequent passing of the by-laws, the board adopted one permissive of the payment of fees for the education of children whose parents were in destitute circumstances in denominational schools. A large public meeting of Nonconformists was held, and they protested against those proceedings as offensive to their consciences. The school board, in due course, sent a precept to the Town Council for a considerable sum of money, which they needed to meet their outlying and prospective liabilities. But the Town Council, by a very decisive majority, refused to make an order for the payment of the money needed, and left it with the board to make and collect their own rate. The board have applied to the Court of Queen's Bench for a mandamus to compel the Corporation to make the necessary order on their treasurer for the amount demanded by them (the board) for educational purposes. On Monday night a crowded meeting of the inhabitants and ratepayers of the borough was held in the large hall of the Athenæum, called to support the action of the Town Council in refusing to be a party to paying fees for sectarian schools. A large contingent of Churchmen and Roman Catholics were present, however, and the proceedings were of the most uproarious character. The following resolution was proposed by the Rev. Richard Chew and seconded by Mr. Francis M. Bowey:—"That this meeting cordially supports the action of the Town Council in refusing to be a party to paying fees for sectarian schools, and earnestly trusts it will abide by its decision; and that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Town Clerk, with a request that it may be read at the first meeting of the council." Mr. F. Ritson moved an amendment:—"That the meeting deprecates the action of the council, as calculated to involve two public bodies in expensive litigation at the cost of the ratepayers." Canon Bamber, Roman Catholic priest, seconded the amendment and delivered a long speech amid a scene of wild excitement. The resolution, however, was carried by a substantial majority. The meeting then broke up in general uproar. On Wednesday the Town Council decided by a majority of 28 to 26 to adhere to their resolution not to collect the School Board rate.

THE CHRISTMAS NUMBER

OF

THE ILLUSTRATED TIMES,

to be published on SATURDAY, DEC. 23,

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SATURDAY, DECEMBER 2, 1871.

THE PRESS, THE LAW, AND THE PUBLIC.

THERE are certain topics which, because we have believed them to be of pressing importance, we have over and over again urged upon the readers of the *ILLUSTRATED TIMES*. Every day that passes confirms, as it seems to us, the estimate we had formed of the seriousness and urgency of most, if not all, of these topics.

Our readers will remember how often they have alighted in this journal upon warnings based on Channing's famous dictum—applied by him to his own land, of course—"This country, though not priest-ridden, is press-ridden." There has been a growing tendency in our literature to become "personal," to disregard individual feelings, and to break through the barriers of self-respect and respect for others which have usually been supposed to hedge round private life in England. Besides this, there has been of late years an alarming display in journalism of the same kind of phenomenon as has been seen elsewhere—that is, a sort of crowding up of excessive power and influence into certain prominent channels of that kind of criticism which has in our columns been distinguished as criticism of the Tyrannical School. Just as great corporations have been petted by Parliament and allowed enormous powers, so great organs have been permitted to steal horses when smaller ones have not been allowed to look over hedges. We have said before, and we repeat, that some of the decisions in libel cases,—decisions in favour of the journals against which the libels were charged,—have been against the law and the facts; while other libels, of a very gross kind, have gone unchastised. It has seemed to us that while, on the one hand, there has been an inclination on the part of those whose duty it is to interpret and administer the law to make light of and snub the press, where the "organ" was a small one, there has been, on the other hand, in the same quarters, a visible tendency to allow too much tether to the larger organs.

We are carefully guarding our language, and still more carefully avoiding all specific references; but the fact is as we have affirmed it to be. Again, the relations of the bench, the jury-box, and what is called "public opinion" have long been, to our mind, in a most sinister state; sinister, that is to say, in their bearing upon the interests of justice. This, again, is no new remark to our readers. Here, also, we avoid particularisation, and simply refer in general terms to decisions which have been given in cases of divorce, judicial separation, breach of promise, and the action *per quod servitium amisit*. In some of these cases, also, we have declared it to be our opinion that the decisions have been against both the law and the facts. We are still of that opinion, and that justice has been strained in deference (unconscious deference, no doubt) to "public opinion."

In all these matters there has been action and reaction, and at present we fail to see daylight ahead of us. Certainly the law of libel, as administered, appears to us in a state of dangerous confusion. This, however, we have said so many times that we need not repeat it. Yet it is scarcely possible to refrain from referring, by way of illustration, to a recent case, in which, we believe, a majority of Judges sitting upon a question of indicting or suing for libel, held that it might be libellous to write publicly that the advertised name of a portmanteau was "silly, vulgar, and slangy." Mr. Justice Lush, we fancy, was dead against any such view, and so are we; while Mr. Justice Hannen (we think) held that it was a fair question to go to a jury, whether there was "animus" in the words in question. At all events we pity the jury that will have to decide the matter, and there are few journalists who will now write at all without fear and trembling. Since this decision was given, publishers have been worried by threats of actions or indictments for the most trivial phrases of blame; and where, in the name of wonder, is this sort of thing to stop? One of the Judges, if he is correctly reported, said that it was not usual for periodicals to comment on the names of articles. We should have thought—having eyes and memories, and many years' experience in journalism—that it was the most usual thing in the world. And who on earth is to decide whether a given title is "silly" or not? We give it up; nor have we yet come

across a single journalist who is not bewildered by this extraordinary case. It would be easy to name "organs" in which fully one sixth of the articles—political, social, and literary—are, without question, libellous. These "organs" have been sued or indicted on a few occasions (we have them all in our mind), and in every case the prosecution has failed. In two instances the miscarriage of justice was, in our opinion, as extreme as in that of "Achilli v. Newman," tried in 1852, before Lord Campbell. And we certainly fancied that the reasons were disagreeably obvious. Where all this perplexing action and reaction is to end nobody can tell; but its present operation is, in our opinion, rapidly approaching the dimensions of a public scandal.

SAYINGS AND DOINGS.

THE QUEEN, accompanied by Prince Leopold and Princess Beatrice, arrived at Windsor Castle, last Saturday morning at nine o'clock, from Balmoral. Although still weak, and suffering from the effects of her late severe illness, her Majesty bore the journey well.

THE ILLNESS OF THE PRINCE OF WALES has developed into typhoid fever. The attack, however, is not very severe, and the disease is running a favourable course. The Queen left Windsor on Wednesday morning to pay a visit to her son, and arrived at Sandringham shortly after three o'clock in the afternoon.

THE EMPEROR OF GERMANY has conferred the Cross of Merit on Mrs. Henry Templer for services rendered to the sick and wounded during the late war.

THE KING OF SWEDEN has forwarded to Captain A. C. Hawkins, of Grimsby, commander of the screw-steamer Leeds, a handsome silver telescope, mounted in Morocco, for saving, in March last, at considerable danger to himself, the crew of the Swedish ship Patriot. The telescope bears the following inscription in Swedish:—"From Carl, King of Sweden and Norway, to Captain A. C. Hawkins, for a brave and noble deed, 1871."

THE MARQUIS OF SALISBURY will shortly retire from the chairmanship of the Great Eastern Railway.

LORD G. F. HAMILTON, M.P., third son of the Duke of Abercorn, was married, on Tuesday, to Lady Maud Caroline Lascelles, sister of the Earl of Harwood. The Rev. Lord Wriothesley Russell and the Hon. and Rev. James Lascelles officiated at the ceremony, which took place at Sevenoaks.

THE EMPEROR OF GERMANY has accepted the office of arbitrator, to which he was invited by the English and American Governments, under the Washington Treaty, with a view to the settlement of the San Juan difficulty.

THE REV. DR. BARRY, Principal of King's College, is gazetted to a canonry in Worcester Cathedral.

BY THE LIBERALITY OF SIR RICHARD WALLACE the finest portion of the collection of pictures at Hertford House will be shortly exhibited at the South Kensington Museum.

PRINCIPAL BARCLAY has received a letter from Mr. Disraeli intimating formally his acceptance of the Lord Rectorship of Glasgow University.

THE SHIP NONPAREIL, of Liverpool, has been lost, with nearly the whole of her crew, while on a voyage from Bombay to New York.

MR. R. LESLEY, the new president of the Oxford University Boat Club, forwarded, on Monday, the challenge to Mr. Goldie, of Cambridge, to row the annual eight-oared race as usual in the spring.

THE WESTMINSTER LATIN PLAY, after its temporary suspension in 1870, is to be revived this year in due form. The comedy which has been selected is the "Andria" of Terence.

A COLLERY ACCIDENT is reported from Westbromwich, in which seven men and a boy, who were in the pit at the time, have lost their lives. The pit is on fire, and has had to be closed.

LORD LYTON'S SUPPORTERS AT ST. ANDREW'S UNIVERSITY contend that Mr. Ruskin's recent election as Rector is void, the Act 21 and 22 Vict. providing that no principal or professor of any university shall be eligible for the Rectorial office.

HER MAJESTY'S SHIP BRITON, commanded by Captain Jago, sitting at Sheerness, is intended to assist to put down piracy and slavery in the Persian Gulf.

THE FIRST COMMISSIONER OF WORKS has nominated Sergeant-Major Ford, of the second battalion Scots Fusilier Guards, to the vacant situation of principal messenger in that department, on the recommendation of the military authorities and in compliance with the feeling that has been expressed that deserving soldiers should be appointed to suitable Government appointments.

MR. THOMAS GREATRIN, a member of the firm of Bailey and Co., bankers, of Newport, was, on Monday, committed for trial by the Coroner at Yorkley, in the Forest of Dean, as being the owner of an unfenced pit into which a navy named John Tucker fell and was killed.

A WOMAN NAMED GRIFITHS, the wife of a puddler residing at Bilston, is in custody on suspicion of having poisoned three of her children. Ten out of her twelve children have died; and it is stated that the deaths of nearly all of these have been attended with symptoms of poisoning.

MR. POOK, the Greenwich solicitor, made application in the Judges' Chambers, on Saturday, for special juries in two cases of libel—one against Mr. Newton Croeland and the other against the *Kentish Mercury*—in which E. W. Pook, who was tried for the Eltham murder, is the plaintiff. The applications were granted.

AN ACTION FOR DAMAGES against the Great Northern Railway Company was, on Wednesday, heard in the Court of Exchequer. The plaintiff, a tradesman of Derby, was seriously injured in an accident which took place in May last near the station of Bourn, in Lincolnshire. The jury returned a verdict for £1200.

DR. PUSEY has issued an address to Catholic members of the Church of England urging them to pray that the decision of the Judicial Committee in Mr. Bennett's case may be in accordance with their views. On the other hand, a correspondent of the *Record* urges united prayer in order that a decision may be arrived at in favour of Evangelical truth.

THE PARISHIONERS OF ST. MICHAEL'S, Paddington, have, through the Rev. G. F. Prescott, M.A., and Mr. William Vincent, presented to the National Life-Boat Institution the sum of £640 to defray the cost of the new life-boat establishment which has just been formed at Flamborough Head. The boat, which was launched at its station a few days ago, is named the St. Michael's, Paddington.

CROWDED MEETINGS were held last Saturday, at Exeter and Tiverton, to protest against the surcharging system adopted by Mr. Lowe in respect to the income tax. At the latter place Sir Stafford Northcote was one of the speakers in support of the protest. Worcester is also up in arms, moved by similar wrongs.

THE MANCHESTER SCHOOL BOARD has received a return showing the amount which had been paid by its authority in school fees during six months. There had been 8000 children on the school-board books during that time, and the amount of fees paid was upwards of £723. The Church of England schools received nearly £400 of that amount, and the Roman Catholic schools £235.

THE ROYAL COMMISSION OF INQUIRY into the loss of the *Magenta* assembled, on Tuesday, in one of the Parliamentary committee-rooms—Lord Lawrence in the chair. The meeting was a private one, to settle the course of procedure; but it is understood that the regular sittings of the Commissioners will be open to the public.

A WELL-DRESSED FRENCHMAN was charged at the Mansion House, on Monday, with having obtained from the late Lord Mayor, Alderman Dakin, the sum of £1000, by falsely representing that he was the Mayor of Châteaudun, and that the money was to be applied to the relief of the inhabitants of that town. About £950 of the money was recovered at the time of the prisoner's arrest. A remand was granted.

THE COURT OF QUEEN'S BENCH has refused to grant a rule for a mandamus calling upon the Treasury to submit the accounts of Mr. Leonard Edmunds to the Public Auditor and Controller-General. The Lord Chief Justice held that, although a public officer had a moral right to expect that his accounts would be audited, the Court "could not interfere to compel the Treasury to do what, morally speaking, they ought to do, but which they are under no legal obligation to do."

THE DOVER ELECTION, last Saturday, terminated in the return of the Solicitor-General. The numbers polled, according to the official declaration, were—Jessel, 1231; Barnett, 1143; majority, 88. The Dover working men appear to have been so annoyed at their defeat that they smashed the windows of various premises understood to be connected with some of those whose attitude they attributed the success of the Government candidate. The hotel which was Mr. Jessel's headquarters received similar marks of indignation.

THE LOUNGER.

A FEW weeks ago there was a diocesan meeting held at Bedford, under the presidency of the Bishop of the diocese, Dr. Harold Brown, to consider things in general touching the welfare of the Church and society. By some accident, having nothing particular to do, I suppose, and the local paper lying handy, I read a report of the proceedings of this meeting, and was afterwards glad I did, for the talk at that meeting was exceedingly curious. Whilst I was reading I felt as if I were in a different world to that in which I usually live. Gladstone once said of the peers, "These gentlemen live in balloons." Well, that is a nice airy place to live in, but it has disadvantages to men who have work to do in the world, as they cannot know what is going on below. These clerical people have evidently this disadvantage; but I should not say that they live in balloons, but rather in a catacomb, amongst the dead things and people of the world; at least I felt, whilst I was reading the report of the meeting, as if I were in a catacomb. Everything there was so old and musty, and the place was so misty and dim, that nobody seemed to see anything clearly, but rather as through a distorting, refracting haze. For example, the Venerable Archdeacon of Bedford—the name of him Dr. Rose, a scholar I am told, and a good, estimable man—began a paper which he had to read by asking, "What is civilisation?" He had read Buckle, and could get no answer; supplemented Buckle with Guizot, and was still as much at a loss as ever. Poor man! In the first place, it struck me as curious that the Venerable Archdeacon should go to Buckle and Guizot to learn what civilisation is. Having myself read the works of both these authors, I venture to assert that they had no thought of telling the world what civilisation is, but meant to tell us how it has come to be what it is—to write its history, in short. They took it for granted that we know pretty well what it is. Every child of twelve years old who has read the "History of England" knows to a certain extent what it is. If the Archdeacon were to take an intelligent boy and say to him, "My dear boy, do you know what civilisation is?" he would probably answer somewhat in this fashion:—"Yes, Sir. When Julius Caesar came here, nearly 2000 years ago, the country was all forests or swamps. There were no roads, and the people were naked and lived in huts made with the branches of trees, and they sacrificed human beings to their gods; and the difference between England and the people then and what England and we are now is civilisation, please Sir." The difference, in short, to put the matter in a concrete form, between a naked savage and his wife painted fantastically with red ochre, shaded, it may be, with burnt wood, wandering through dense forests and wading through swamps, and crossing rivers—the Ouse, say—in a portable coracle to an assemblage of other savages to see a human sacrifice, and the Venerable Archdeacon and his excellent wife wending their way, in a smart barouche, with liveried footmen behind, all comfortably and handsomely clothed, over beautiful roads, between highly-cultured fields, and across a very handsome stone bridge, by a noble church, to a commodious hall to meet a Lord Bishop and a large congregation assembled together, not to dance round human sacrifices, but to listen to what wisdom the Bishop and his friends are inspired to utter. This, most Venerable Archdeacon, and all that it inspires, which is incalculable, is civilisation; and how we got from that to this is the history of civilisation, which Buckle, and Guizot, and others have written, but very imperfectly, as needs must be, for to write it perfectly would require much more time than is allotted to man, and a mind and faculties with which no man yet was ever endowed. No doubt, there are people in our land who, to our disgrace, are not civilised enough; but *nil desperandum*. Having travelled over that long, long, painful journey from the naked savages and their surroundings to the Venerable Archdeacon and his, we shall, I have no manner of doubt, go on further towards perfection.

But one word more touching the speech of the Venerable Archdeacon. I see that he dragged up the saying, or reputed saying, of our dear friend Cobden—to wit, that it is better for us that we should read the newspaper than "Herodotus." I say reputed saying, because I do not believe that Mr. Cobden said so in this bald way; at all events, it is certain that the Venerable Archdeacon separated the text from the context, as, by-the-way, the clergy are in the habit of doing. But what if Mr. Cobden did say this? Is it not true? By the actions of the Venerable Archdeacon I let him be judged. Does he not sedulously read the newspapers more than he reads "Herodotus," or "Josephus," or any other ancient historian? Of course he does, and with deeper interest; and it is right to do so, as we shall see if we consider. Herodotus wrote the history of events which happened about 2500 years ago—wars of Cyrus, &c., and very interesting it is. But is it so interesting as cotemporary history? Surely not. And then, as to the usefulness of it. Does it bear any comparison in that respect with cotemporary history? For, whilst we can do very well without a knowledge of the doings of Cyrus, the knowledge of modern, especially of cotemporary, history is quite indispensable. Nor is it true that the events of ancient times were grander or the men greater than modern events and men. The retreat of the 10,000 Greeks was not a grander achievement than Sherman's flank march. Cyrus, and Xerxes, and Alexander were great commanders; but so were Frederick, Wellington, and Napoleon; and so are Grant, Sherman, and Moltke. "But why all this about the sayings of Archdeacon Rose?" my readers may ask. "We never heard of the gentleman." "Because," I answer, "he is a type of a class."

The dock companies on the Thames have reduced the wages of their labourers from 18s. to 15s.; and the *Times*, with rigorous logic, proves that this is right, and that there is no help for it. It is according to the laws of political economy, which are inexorable. Well, I shall not attempt to confute the logic of the *Times*, but I may be allowed to comment upon the dire necessity; for think what 15s. a week means for a family, with winter not coming, but come! Our London newspapers but lately were very angry with the farmers because they pay such low wages to their labourers, and with landed proprietors because they do not house their tenants better. One paper sent a special correspondent into the farming districts to learn what wages are paid and in what sort of cottages the labouring men live; and when the reports were read, fierce were the anger and scorn which they roused, and all of us pitied those poor men! But I, who know as much as most people about agricultural labourers, their wages, and their dwellings, and their circumstances generally, whilst I am painfully sensible that their wages are insufficient and their dwellings often disgracefully bad, must honestly confess that I would far rather be a farm labourer with 12s., 11s., or even 10s. a week than a dock labourer in London with 15s. In truth, the farm labourer earning 10s. a week is very much better off than the dock labourer is with 15s. To Londoners this may seem strange; but it is easily proved. For a cottage with three rooms a farm labourer rarely pays more than 2s. per week, whereas the dock labourer, I am told, cannot get two rooms under 5s. Then he has to buy everything that he wants, and buy it dearly. But a farm labourer almost always has a garden in which he can grow what vegetables he wants; moreover, he makes his own bread, getting the wheat of his master at a low figure; and he may have an allotment, and grow a little corn and green crops to feed a pig. His clothes he buys with his harvest money. Still, it is hard work to make two ends in the middle meet, and, when old age comes, he must go on the parish. He is, however, on the whole, even on 10s. a week, far better off than the dock labourer is with 15s. But the average wage is now more than 10s. a week; 12s. is nearer the mark, and I am told that the tendency is everywhere upwards. Then, lastly, the farm labourer breathes fresh air—lives in the open, as Mr. Scott Russell puts it.

The Right Honourable John Evelyn Denison was elected Speaker of the House of Commons in 1857, again in 1859, a third

time in 1863, a fourth in 1863. He has, therefore, been Speaker over fourteen years. When he was first elected he was fifty-seven years old; he is now in his seventy-second year. This is not a very great age, but it is a great age for a Speaker of the House of Commons. I cannot find a single Speaker who has held the chair until he arrived at that age, unless it be Mr. Speaker Onslow, who was Speaker from 1726 to 1761, thirty-five years. This gentleman's age neither Burke, nor Manning in his "Lives of the Speakers," records. Mr. Shaw-Lefevre (now Lord Eversley), whom Mr. Denison succeeded, retired at the age of sixty-three. He is still living, and, though he is seventy-seven years old, he looks very little older than he did when he retired from the chair; but at sixty-three he pleaded the infirmities of age as a reason why he retired, and he was right. A Speaker of the House of Commons ought to possess health, strength, vigour, promptitude, decision—qualities rarely possessed by men over three score and ten. Mr. Denison last Session showed conspicuously signs of failure. Nine times during the Session Mr. Dodson, the Deputy Speaker, had to take the chair; and it was the common talk that Mr. Speaker ought to retire and take the honours which he has fairly earned. But whether he will do so nobody knows. There is a rumour that he will hold on until Easter. But why Easter, unless it be that on the 30th of March he will have completed his fifteenth year as Speaker?

THE THEATRICAL LOUNGER.

Mr. Bateman appears to agree with Mr. Puff on the marvellous force of unanimity. Mr. Puff commented on the wonderful unanimity of the eunuchs, and Mr. Bateman tells us that on the subject of "The Bells," recently produced at the Lyceum, the unanimity of the critics is absolutely "startling." This is hardly to be wondered at, for the play, though grim, is interesting, and the conception decidedly original. It is a one-act play; but this matters little when that part is undertaken by Mr. Henry Irving, with a vigour which is beyond all praise. Mr. Irving's monologue is so full of point and subtlety, the performance is so near being great, and the undertaking exhibits so much brain-power, that I should not be surprised to find that "The Bells" turned out to be a genuine success. It deserves to be one from the managerial point of view, for the manager has treated the drama most liberally; and, looked at from every point of view, there is no scamping in any department. Mr. Leopold Lewis, if he can be forgiven for sacrificing two most important points, has translated the text carefully, and cut out very judiciously. Those who love to see pretty stage pictures, who like to be excited with a terrible murder story, and who care to notice that acting is not such a lost art as it is supposed to be, had better take an early opportunity of securing a stall at the Lyceum. "Pickwick" still continues, but Mr. Irving will not play Jingle much longer. Such a character as Mathias is surely sufficient for one evening.

Miss Augusta Thomson has joined the STRAND company in order to assist the revived burlesque of "Ivanhoe," which is likely to do well until Christmas-time; and Mlle. Cornelia d'Anka, who has before complained of the coldness of Englishmen, must alter her opinion now that she has found such a hearty reception at the COURT, a theatre which has been unsuccessful with its comedies, but has now taken regularly to the pretty-face-and-limb school of modern burlesque.

Mr. J. L. Toole met with quite an ovation at the Gaiety last week, and this promises well for his Christmas engagement. The house was fuller last Saturday evening, merely to see the old farces, than on the occasion of Mr. Toole's benefit. Mr. and Mrs. Dion Boucicault are also most welcome, and we shall be jealous when they leave us for America. Mr. Boucicault has appeared in a very touching version of "La Joie Fait Peur," called "Night and Morning," a play which has been adapted of late *ad nauseam*. He turns Rignier's great character into an old Irishman, Kerry, and there are tears to be seen during the performance. But the sentiment and the situations in this play are so touching that I defy any adapter to prevent the tears. Mrs. Boucicault reserves herself for this evening (Saturday), when "Elise" is announced—a drama we have never seen in London, and concerning which most contradictory reports come from the provinces. I expect we shall continue our novelties right up to the very eve of Christmas. There never has been such a year for new plays as that just expiring.

DR. KARL MARX.

(To the Editor of the ILLUSTRATED TIMES.)

1, Maitland Park-road, Haverstock-hill, N.W., Nov. 25.

SIR,—In the article which you do me the honour of devoting to my person in your issue of Nov. 18 you ascribe to me a "general scheme," more or less "founded on what is sometimes known as Pan-Germanism."

Will you kindly allow me to state that my "Pan-Germanism" is a mere invention of the Paris police. For the last thirty years this pretended theory of "Pan-Germanism" has been ridiculed by none more than by myself and my friends.

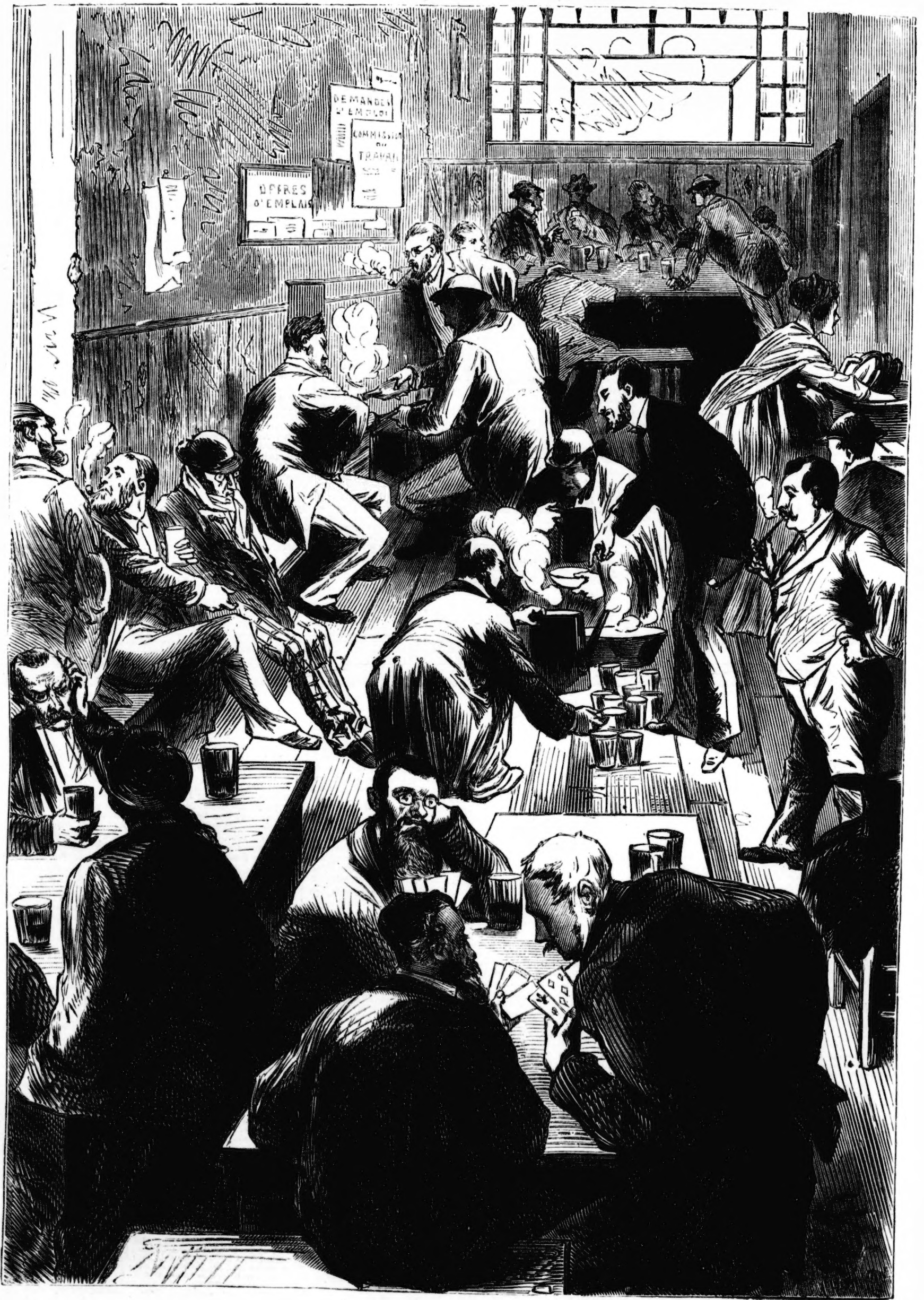
I find myself also designated as "President of the International." The International Working Men's Association has no president.

You will oblige me by inserting the above in your next publication.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant, KARL MARX.

FRENCH COMMUNISTS IN LONDON.

THE locale of the gathering depicted in our Engraving is, of course, near Leicester-square. That much anyone conversant with the habits of the political refugee in the British metropolis can easily guess; but we do not mean to be more precise, lest we should chance to aid unwelcome visitors in finding out the haunt of the "exiles;" for, whatever may have been their faults and follies—or what would probably be called their crimes in official circles at Versailles—these men have sought the hospitality of England, and we, at least, do not care to have any hand in betraying their whereabouts to the enemy. Suffice it to say that the scene of the meeting is a public-house, or restaurant, of a not very pretentious character, where the refugees assemble to dine, to drink their coffee, to consume their soup, and to imbibe an occasional glass of the national liquor—beer. Above all, here they come for those two things which are indispensable to the Frenchman wherever and however he may be situated—amusement and talk. Very varied are the habits of the place; very diverse their characters; and, occasionally, very wild their discourse. While some engage in cardplaying, and only whisper politics between the tricks, and some occupy themselves in looking after such creature comforts as the place affords, and as they can manage to pay for, others gather into groups and discourse of high enterprises, or what they deem so, and plan mighty revolutions that are to change the destinies of Europe—yes, even of the world—but in words too loud, we suspect, to be very dangerous. A few reticent individuals may here and there be noted, however, who either silently brood over past failures or speak in undertones of future efforts; and these, perhaps, are the most dangerous of the lot. But, after all, what great harm can these poor creatures do? So let them play, and talk, and brood, and even plot and plan, since their efforts and their schemings are pretty sure to come to nought.

THE "NEW MOVEMENT."—Last Saturday evening a conference of three hours' duration was held, at Angus's Temperance Hotel, New Bridge-street, between Mr. Scott Russell and the leading members of the Skilled Workmen's Committee, respecting the new social movement. Among the persons present were Mr. Scott Russell, Mr. Lloyd Jones, Mr. George Howell, Mr. R. Applegarth, Mr. D. Guile, and Mr. George Potter. The following resolution was adopted:—"That, in the absence of any definite proposition from the legislative council for mutual action in regard to the seven resolutions, we, the acceptors of these resolutions, postpone for the present taking any further steps in regard thereto; but we are willing to co-operate with any members of the Legislature, without reference to political party, for the purpose of improving the social and industrial condition of the working classes."



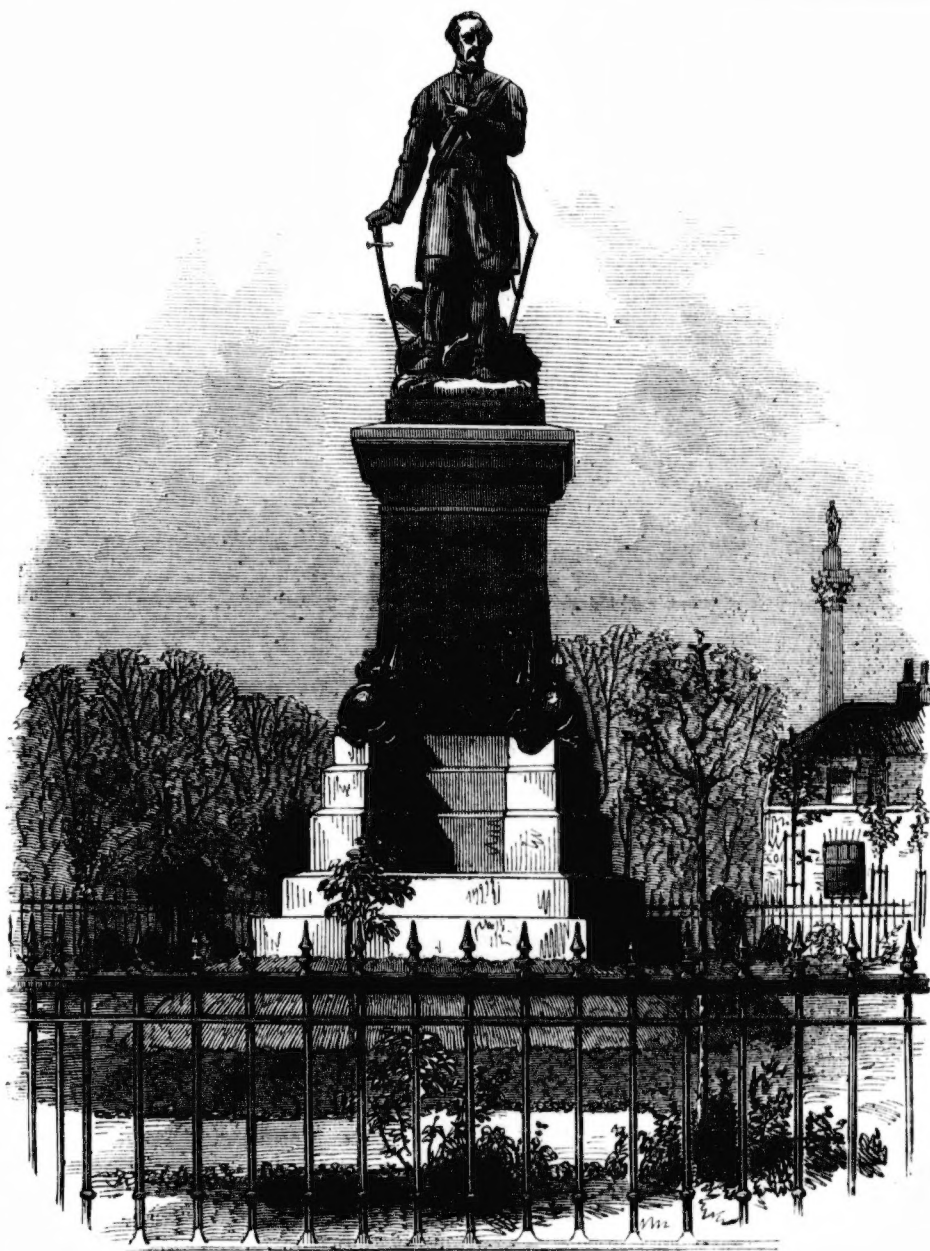
FRENCH COMMUNISTS IN LONDON.

THE OUTRAM STATUE

ON THE THAMES EMBANKMENT.

LIEUTENANT-GENERAL SIR JAMES OUTRAM, G.C.B., of whom a statue has recently been erected on the Thames Embankment, was born in 1802; and, after passing through his collegiate career at Aberdeen with considerable distinction, obtained an appointment as military cadet in India, whither he proceeded in 1819. He had not been long there when his abilities and energy attracted the attention of his immediate superiors, and he was appointed Lieutenant and Adjutant of the Bombay Native Infantry, which he subsequently quitted in order to assume the command of the Bheel Corps, for organising and disciplining which he obtained great commendation. Afterwards he became political agent in Guzerat, British Resident at Hyderabad, Sattara, and Baroda, and eventually succeeded the late Sir William Sleeman as commissioner at Lucknow. In 1856 he was dispatched to Persia, armed with diplomatic powers as commissioner, with the forces sent thither, enjoying, at the same time, the local rank of Lieutenant-General. He was present at the capture of Bushire and gained the victory at Khooshab, in 1857. Returning to India shortly before the outbreak of the mutiny, he was appointed Resident at Rajpootan, and a provisional member of the Council of India. The chivalrous part which he played during the outbreak of the mutiny, as the colleague of Havelock, Lawrence, and Lord Clyde, as well as his controversy with the late Sir Charles James Napier relative to the cause of the Ameers of Scinde, need no more than a passing allusion here. In India, long before the mutiny, he was well known to fame as an officer of long experience and high distinction, and had earned for himself the title of the "Bayard of the Indian army, *sans peur et sans reproche*." In 1856 he was nominated a Civil Knight Commander of the Bath, and in the following year a Military Grand Cross of the same order. His latter honours were a baronetcy, the grade of G.C.B., and the appointment of Lieutenant-General of her Majesty's Indian forces. General Outram died in 1863, aged sixty-one, if not full of years, at least full of honours.

The statue to Sir James's memory, which is represented in our Engraving, stands in the gardens of the Thames Embankment, at the junction with the road from Whitehall-place near the Charing-cross railway bridge. It is of heroic size (the figure being 12 ft. in height), and stands upon a pedestal of red Aberdeen granite, which is 18 ft. high and 14 ft. square at the base. The General is represented as calmly standing on a battle-field, and looking stedfastly at the work going on under his direction. His right hand leans upon his sword; in his left he holds a telescope; a burst gun, with shattered shot and shell, and a helmet, lie at his feet. The pedestal is adorned at the angles with Indian trophies in bronze. Mr. Matthew Noble is the sculptor of this statue.



MONUMENT TO THE LATE GENERAL SIR JAMES OUTRAM, ON THE THAMES EMBANKMENT.

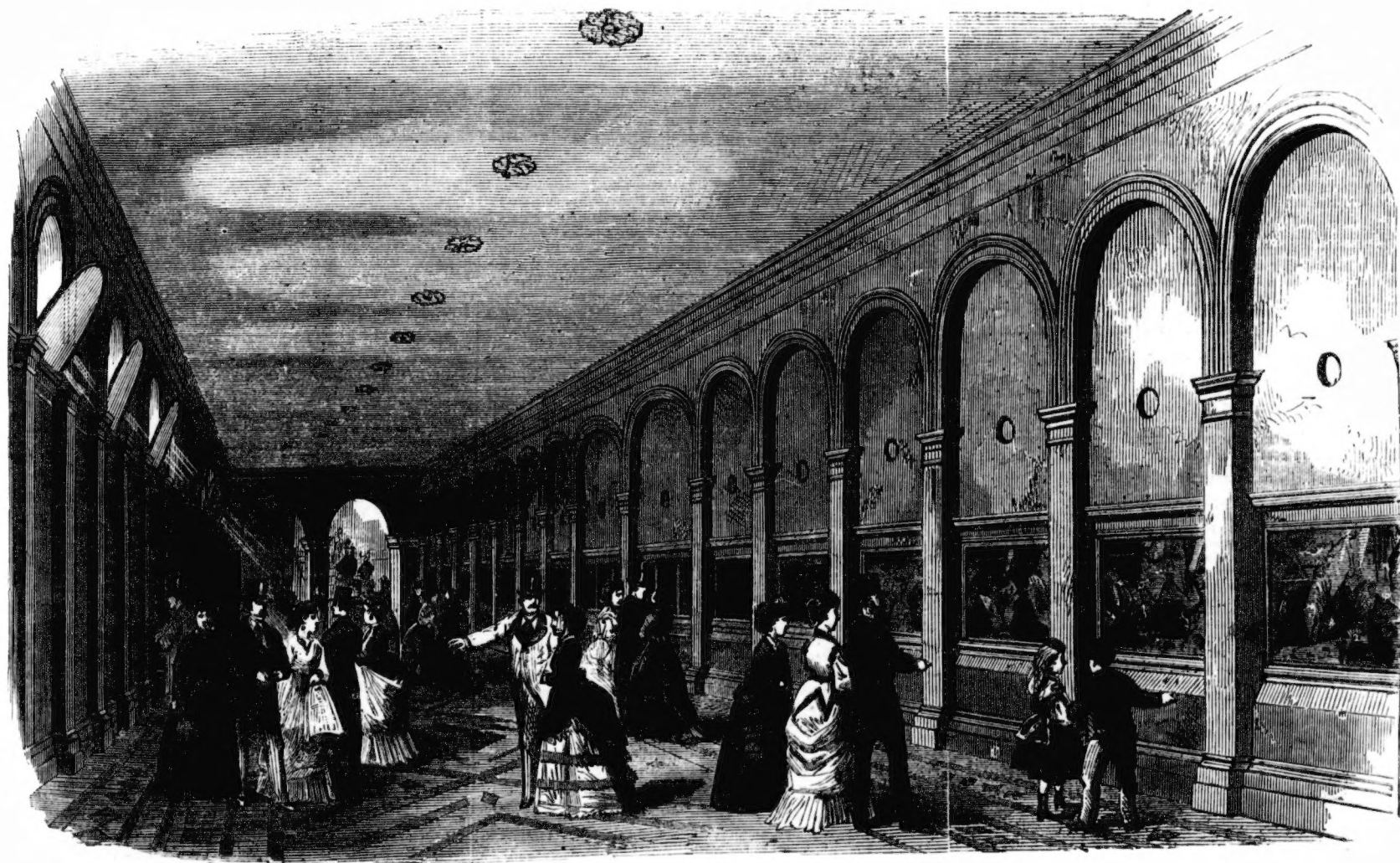
THE CRYSTAL PALACE AQUARIUM.

In May, 1853, an aquarium was opened in the Zoological Gardens, Regent's Park, and it was at once perceived that great advantages could be derived from an opportunity of being able to watch conveniently the inhabitants of seas and rivers in a state of life and health. This aquarium in

the same period and for some years afterwards; and all three experimenters worked independently of one another, and without each other's knowledge.

The Crystal Palace Aquarium, connected with the palace itself by stairs, measures 312 ft. long and 20 ft. high, and is in width 63 ft. in some places, and 35 ft. in others. The public por-

Regent's Park, which still exists in nearly its original state, and which should be respected as being the forerunner of all which have been since erected, gave a great impetus to the study of marine zoology in England and in many places on the Continent and in America, where domestic aquaria quickly became very popular. In 1860 the Acclimation Society of France set up in its garden near Paris a large public aquarium, and this was succeeded, in 1864, by a similar one in the Zoological Gardens in Hamburg; and since then others of the same character have been built in Paris (in two places there), in Havre (also in two places), in Hanover, in Boulogne, in Cologne, in Brussels, and in Berlin. One has also been set up in the Zoological Gardens in Dublin, and two in America—one in New York and one in Boston. The results of these establishments have been to add very largely to our knowledge of water animals by means of the great number of species which have been kept; and, indeed, it is becoming more and more felt that a zoological garden is incomplete if it does not contain a collection of aquatic animals of the classes below the reptiles, birds, and mammals, of which such establishments usually consist. But, with the exception of the two aquaria just named, in London and Dublin, both of them being small and confessedly imperfect, no public aquarium exists in Britain; and it is well known that British naturalists have of late years been obliged to go abroad to see living marine British animals under circumstances permitting them to be observed continuously and otherwise advantageously. This state of things is now changed, however; for, stimulated by the commercial success of some of the public Continental aquaria just named, a company has been formed, with a capital of £12,000, to make at the northern end of the Crystal Palace (the portion which was partly burnt down in 1866) an aquarium of large size, which is nearly finished, and has been provisionally opened, and in which is combined all the successive improvements which experience has suggested since 1846, when Mrs. Thynne discovered that in London she could keep some living corals in a thriving state in sea-water which needed no renewal so long as seaweeds were kept growing with the creatures. It is not sufficiently well known that this lady is the first person recorded to have deliberately set about making a balance of existence for this specific purpose—the preservation of animals in aquaria—although the late Mr. R. Warrington made the thing more public in 1849, and Mr. P. H. Gosse still further extended the subject at about



THE AQUARIUM AT THE CRYSTAL PALACE.

SUNDAY IN LONDON.

(From M. Taine's "Notes on England" in the Paris "Temps.")

tions of the building consist of three rooms—a saloon, of which the floor space measures 184 ft. long and 16½ ft. broad; a south room, having a floor space of 30 ft. long and 8½ ft. broad; and a north room, with a floor space of 14 ft. long and 8½ ft. broad. Besides these, there are, in the part not shown to the public, a work-room, a steam-engine and boiler room, an apartment to contain the heating apparatus, two store-rooms, an attendants' gallery running from end to end of the entire building, and an office.

There are 150,000 gallons of sea-water, weighing 700 tons, of which 130,000 gallons are in a reservoir below the saloon, and 20,000 gallons are distributed among sixty tanks containing the animals. These tanks are of various dimensions and proportions, varying from seventy-five gallons to 4000 gallons each, and ranging in depth vertically from 6 in. to 6 ft. of water, and therefore they will suit the requirements of a great number and large variety of creatures, from sponges to fishes. The sea-water is raised into the tanks from the reservoir below the saloon; and it flows through and among them, falling down a succession of levels, so that in its progress it may do as much work as possible, until it enters the reservoir whence it came, and from which it is again and again pumped by steam power, at the rate of from 5000 to 10,000 gallons an hour continuously, day and night; and by means of this aerating motion, coupled with the oxygenation derived from growing plants, no change of water will be needed, and the quantity (brought from Brighton by Mr. Hudson) will be used year after year indefinitely, the loss of fresh water by evaporation being supplied weekly by the addition of an equal quantity of water distilled on the premises.

The reason why the sea water is at present unfit for the support of animal life is, because there has been no time for the growth of vegetation in it. This vegetation decomposes the poisonous carbonic acid gas given out by the animals, absorbing the carbon into its own substance, and setting free the oxygen for the benefit of the creatures, and thus keeping all in a pure and respirable condition. The quantity of sea water in the underground reservoir is about seven times as great as the aggregate amount in the tanks containing the animals, the intention of this difference in size being for the convenience of rapidly drawing upon the reservoir to purify the tanks above. It is evident that if from any cause one of the tanks above ground containing, say, 1000 gallons, becomes turbid, and can be quickly emptied into the great reservoir containing 130,000 gallons, that large quantity dilutes the impurity, so that it is not apparent, and the tank can then be quickly filled with pure water.

One perfectly novel feature in the undertaking needs special notice—namely, most of the parts of it are in duplicate. Thus, there are two steam-engines, each of 3-horse power, and especially arranged for continuous and economical action, two steam-engine boilers, two pumps, and two distinct sets of receptacles for animals; tanks 1 to 38 being for the public exhibition of animals, and tanks 39 to 60 being not publicly exhibited, but intended to contain collections of creatures purchased when they are cheap, or at seasons when their transport by rail is easy. The use of this power in reserve in the machinery is, that if any accident happens to one part of it, the other portion is ready to take its place, and thus the uninterrupted motion of the sea will be so far represented. Still further to hinder interruption of the supply of animals, the company has two resting depôts for them, one at Southend and one at Plymouth, in addition to other collecting places at Weymouth, Teignmouth, Ilfracombe, Menai in North Wales, Tenby in South Wales, and in other localities, save in Scotland and in Ireland, whence some specimens are desirable. There is no country in the world of the same size as Britain which possesses a richer and more varied marine fauna capable of being maintained in captivity than it has, and there is no country having so complete a literature of its marine animals as Britain has; and therefore this new and great aquarium, which will enable large numbers of persons to leisurely examine animals which can be examined alive in no other way, because in nature they are concealed by the element in which they exist, will, it is hoped, form a very important aid towards our still better knowledge of marine biology, if the establishment be managed with the great and continuous care which such a difficult thing requires; for it is a great and complicated difficulty, that which is involved not only in the maintenance of a large and varied assemblage of animals of every kind, but which is made further intricate by the having to constantly preserve in a clear and respirable condition so dense an atmosphere as the water in which the creatures live, and which water is constantly receiving impurities from them.

The show tanks are arranged interiorly with rockwork, for the convenience of the animals; and, such rockwork being thus in the first place necessary, it has then been made decorative. This is mentioned because in all Continental aquaria, except the one at Hamburg, rockwork is placed not only inside the tanks, but outside them, and in all other places where it is unnecessary, and therefore ugly and excrement. In the Berlin aquarium, for example, many thousands of pounds have been needlessly spent on this so-called decoration, while the mechanical arrangements there are very poor. The notion of thus making the entire aquarium like an imitative grotto seems to be to give spectators an idea that they are beneath the surface of the ocean, and in a veritable submarine cavern. But such an idea cannot exist, and such an imitation can never be made. In the Crystal Palace aquarium no such deceptive or imitative competition with nature is attempted; but all that is done is to endeavour to represent conventionally some of the abstract conditions of the sea; and whatever decorations are introduced are merely sparing enrichments of the surfaces of necessarily constructive members.

A space at the northern end of the saloon exists for a corresponding series of fresh-water tanks; and these will be added when some further experiences have been gained, but at first this aquarium will be exclusively marine after its temporary exhibition this Easter.

The architect is Mr. C. H. Driver, who has shown much ingenuity in every part, and in making a saving use of all portions of the area assigned to him. This aquarium will, for its size, be the most economical one ever made, both in construction and maintenance.

The above description has been reprinted, with slight alterations and additions, from an account in the *Athenæum*, by W. A. Lloyd.

MURDER OF THE BISHOP OF MELANESIA.—News comes from Sydney, with the date of Nov. 4, that Bishop Patteson and the Rev. Mr. Aitken have been massacred, while landing on the island of Santa Cruz, by a Melanesian native, in revenge for kidnapping outrages by slavers. The Right Rev. John Coleridge Patteson, who was the eldest son of the late Sir John Patteson, was born in 1827. He was educated at Eton, and at Balliol College, Oxford. He subsequently became a Fellow of Merton. He was consecrated Missionary Bishop of Melanesia, in the South Pacific Isles, in 1861. The island of Santa Cruz, on which he and Mr. Aitken have been murdered, is one of the Queen Charlotte group, between Mallicolo and Solomon Islands, and is situated about 20 deg. S. and 138 deg. W.

SIR CHARLES DILKE AND THE LONDON DEMOCRACY.—A meeting of delegates from the various metropolitan Republican and Democratic organisations took place, on Wednesday night, at the Hall of the London Patriotic Society, Kirby-street, Hatton-garden, for the purpose of considering the best means of supporting Sir Charles Dilke against the attacks now being made upon him for his Newcastle speech exposing the expenses and corruption of the monarchical system. Among the delegates present were Messrs. G. Odger, Osborne, Weston, Troutcott, Spencer, Provis, Johnson, Elliott, Wynne, and other leading Democrats. A general feeling of indignation prevailed at the unfair attacks made by a portion of the press upon Sir Charles Dilke, seeing that in his recent speech, which had called forth these remarks, he had said nothing personally disrespectful to the Queen herself. After a long discussion, it was resolved to engage St. James's Hall for a public meeting, to which Sir Charles Dilke should be invited and requested to address the meeting upon the expenses of monarchy and the inequality in the present state of the representation. A large committee was selected to arrange the details and collect the funds to defray the expenses of the meeting, such funds to be collected exclusively from the working classes, as it was desirable that the meeting should be a purely working men's meeting.

On Sunday in London when it rains, the shops shut, the streets almost deserted, the aspect is that of an immense and a well-ordered cemetery. The few passers-by under their umbrellas in the desert of squares and streets have the look of uneasy spirits who have risen from their graves. It is appalling.

I had no conception of such a spectacle, which is said to be frequent in London. The rain is small, compact, pitiless. Looking at it one can see no reason why it should not continue to the end of all things. One's feet churn water, there is water everywhere, filthy water impregnated with an odour of soot. A yellow, dense fog fills the air, sweeps down to the ground; at thirty paces a horse, a steam-boat, appear as spots upon blotting-paper. After one hour's walk in the Strand especially, and in the rest of the City, one has the spleen, one meditates suicide. The lofty lines of fronts are of sombre brick, of which the exudations are incrustated with fog and soot. Monotony and silence; yet the inscriptions on metal or marble speak and tell of the absent master as in a large manufactory of bone-black closed on account of a death.

A frightful thing is the huge palace in the Strand which is called Somerset House. Massive and heavy pieces of architecture, of which the hollows are inked, the porticoes blackened with soot, where, in the cavity of the empty court, is a sham fountain without water, pools of water on the pavement, long rows of closed windows—what can they possibly do in these catacombs? It seems as if the livid and sooty fog had even befouled the verdure of the parks. But what most offends the eyes are the colonnades, peristyles, Grecian ornaments, mouldings, and wreaths of the houses all bathed in soot. Poor antique architecture, what is it doing in such a climate? The flutings and columns at the front of the British Museum are begrimed as if liquid mud had been poured over them. St. Paul's, a kind of Pantheon, has two ranges of columns; the lower range is entirely black, the upper range, recently scraped, is still white, but the white is offensive; coal-smoke has already plastered it with its leprosy.

These spots are melancholy, being the decay of the stone. And these nude statues in memory of Greece! Wellington as a fighting hero, naked under the dripping trees of the park? That hideous Nelson, stuck on his column with a coil of rope in the form of a pigtail, like a rat impaled on the top of a pole! Every form, every classical idea, is contrary to nature here. A swamp like this is a place of exile for the arts of antiquity. When the Romans disembarked here they must have thought themselves in Homer's hades—in the land of the Cimmerians. The vast space which, in the south, stretches between the earth and the sky, cannot be discovered by the eye; there is no air; there is nothing but liquid fog; in this pale smoke objects are but fading phantoms. Nature has the look of a bad drawing in charcoal which someone has rubbed with his sleeve. I have just spent half an hour on Waterloo Bridge; the Houses of Parliament, blurred and indistinct, appear in the distance but a wretched pile of scaffolding; nothing is discernible, and, more particularly, nothing is living, except a few steam-boats skimming along the river, black, smoky, unwearied insects; a Greek watching their passengers embarking and disembarking would have thought of the Styx. He would have found that to exist here was not to live; in fact, life here is different from what it is in his country; the ideal has altered with the climate. The mind quits the without to retire within itself, and there create a world. Here one must have a comfortable and well-ordered home, clubs, societies, plenty of business, many religious and moral preoccupations; above all, instead of abandoning oneself to the influence of exterior impressions, it is necessary to extrude all the sad promptings of unfriendly Nature, and fill up the great void wherein melancholy and tedium would take up their abode. During the week one has work, constant, earnest work, wherewith to ward off and arm oneself against the inclemency of things. But what is to be done on the day of rest? There is the church or the pious house, intoxication or a sermon, insensibility or refection, but no other way of spending a Sunday such as this; in that way, whether in thinking, whether in making a beast of oneself, one is absorbed, one attains forgetfulness. I observe many doors ajar in the spirit-vaults, and faces, worn or wild, pass out and in. Let us visit the churches.

I visited four and I heard two sermons, the first in a church in the Strand. A naked, cold, and unornamented structure, with the exception of two allegorical figures at the end; large wooden pews, in which one is enconced up to the neck. The congregation which fills it is composed not of the commonality, but of the respectable middle class, very well dressed and with serious and sensible physiognomies. They come to provision themselves with moral counsel, to refresh their principles. The preacher chose for his text, "One mind, one spirit," and thereupon he advised his hearers to hold fast to their principles, yet to be conciliatory towards their fellows. The sermon was good—slightly commonplace, yet solid. When reading the numerous essays in English literature, and at the present day the moralisings of the *Saturday Review*, one perceives that commonplaces do not weary them; apparently they consider morality not as an object of curiosity, but as a practical tool, an instrument in daily use, which must be sharpened every Sunday.

The books displayed on the ledges of the pews are the Psalms and the Book of Common Prayer—the mass-book of England. It is marked by much elevation and a certain Hebraic sublimity, in the style of Milton, yet by no tenderness and outpourings, as in the "Imitation," no flowers of rhetoric or sentimental nanby-pamby, as in our minor devotional works, but by an imposing, impassioned, and sometimes a lyrical tone. The liturgy was compiled at the period of the Revival, and retains its accent. A noteworthy point is that here the date and origin of each piece are noted, this one being of the sixteenth century; this passage being taken from the Apocrypha, but retained on account of its elevation. The believer is instructed by these remarks, is informed about criticism and history; see the sermons of Tillotson and of Barrow at the era of Bossuet, with their Greek texts and discussions about the grammatical interpretation. Time being given, this necessarily leads to German exegesis.

The superb nave, the admirable Gothic architecture, of Westminster Abbey are alone adapted to the climate; this labyrinth of forms, these sweeping and huge mouldings, this profusion of delicate sculptures are required to fill the dim air and people the void of such sombre interiors. I wandered about looking at the mortuary monuments, the numerous graceful sculptures of the eighteenth century, the others of our own age so cold and pedantic, when suddenly the music pealed forth, not the monotonous psalmody of our Vespers, the rude and monkish chants, the verses and responses which seem to be the voices of ailing nuns, but beautiful pieces in parts, grave and noble recitative, melodious outbursts of harmony, the productions of the best epoch. Then, after the reading of a passage about Simeon, the organ and the choristers, children's voices and bass voices, sounded forth a full and rich anthem. Such music as that is the worthy accompaniment to the psalms and to the prayers which I have just perused. Thus understood, worship is the opera of elevated, serious, and believing souls. Nothing is more important; it is essential that the church and the services should be on a level with the sentiments of a people, not merely of the crowd and of the uneducated, but of the select few.

I visited two other churches in the afternoon. There, too, the music was beautiful, and the edifice was filled with the well-to-do middle class. The large, inclosed pews, all the galleries, were filled with well-dressed persons; there are as many men as women, and many gentlemen; the public was not our public of women, old curmudgeons, servant-girls, common people. Of the three clergymen I have seen, one, worthy and polite, who spoke to me, had the air of a semi-professor and semi-magistrate. Another resembled a Parisian notary, mature and well-preserved, who assumes soft tones and a sentimental look, in order to procure the signing of a marriage contract. I saw others last year in London

and the country. With their short gown, and the tone they use in the pulpit, one would take them for judges or chief justices; by their education, their marriage, their manners, their calling, they are laymen slightly graver than the others; their garb out of church is that of laymen, with the exception of the everlasting white tie; the moral difference is not much greater than the material difference. This is the essential point; to place the laymen on a par with the priest, or at most separated by one degree only, is in truth the work of the Reformation.

On returning to my hotel I read the following proclamation in Friday's *Gazette*:—"Victoria R.: We, most seriously and religiously considering that it is our indispensable duty to be careful above all other things to preserve and advance the honour and service of Almighty God, and to discourage and suppress all vice, profaneness, debauchery, and immorality . . . we do hereby strictly enjoin and prohibit all our loving subjects, of what degree or quality soever, from playing on the Lord's Day at dice, cards, or any other game whatsoever, either in public or private houses, or other place or places whatsoever; and we do hereby require and command them and every of them decently and reverently to attend the worship of God on every Lord's Day;" and the magistrates are enjoined "to take effectual care to prevent all persons keeping taverns, or other public houses whatsoever, from selling wine, beer, or other liquors, or receiving or permitting guests to be or remain in such their houses in the time of Divine service on the Lord's Day."

This order is not strictly observed; the tavern doors are closed during service, but they can be opened and drinking goes on in the back room. In any case this is a relic of the old Puritanism altogether distasteful in France. Prohibit people to drink and amuse themselves on Sunday! But to a French workman, and to a peasant, Sunday appears to have been made for nothing else. Stendhal said that here, in Scotland, in true Biblical countries, religion spoils one day out of seven, destroys the seventh part of possible happiness. He judges the Englishman, the man of the North, after the model of the man of the South, whom wine exhilarates and does not brutalise, who can without inconvenience give way to his instinct, and whose pleasure is poetical. Here the temperament is different, more violent and more combative: pleasure is a brutish and bestial thing; I could cite twenty examples of this. An Englishman said to me, "When a Frenchman is drunk he chatters; when a German is drunk he sleeps; when an Englishman is drunk he fights."

Other traces of Puritanical severity, among the rest, are the recommendations on the stairs which lead down to the Thames: one is requested to be decent. At the railway station there are large Bibles fastened to chains for the use of the passengers while waiting for the train. A tall, sawn, and bony fellow handed to me two printed pages on the brazen serpent of Moses, with applications to the present life: "You, too, Oh reader, have been bitten by the fiery serpents. To heal yourself lift up your eyes to Him who has been elevated as the sign of salvation." Other tokens denote an aristocratic country. At the gate of St. James's Park is the following notice:—"The park-keepers have orders to prevent all beggars from entering the gardens, and all persons in ragged or dirty clothes, or who are not outwardly decent and well-behaved." At every step one feels oneself further removed from France.

The population numbers three millions and a quarter; that makes twelve cities like Marseilles, ten cities like Lyons, two cities like Paris put together; but words upon paper are no substitutes for the sensation of the eyes. It is necessary to take a cab several days in succession, and proceed straight on towards the south, the north, the east, and the west, during a whole morning, as far as the uncertain limits where houses grow scanty and the country begins.

Enormous, enormous—this is the word which always recurs. Moreover, all is rich and well-ordered; consequently, they must think us neglected and poor. Paris is mediocre compared with these squares, these crescents, these circles and rows of monumental buildings of massive stone, with porticoes, with sculptured fronts, these spacious streets; there are sixty of them as vast as the Rue de la Paix. Assuredly, Napoleon III. demolished and rebuilt Paris only because he had lived in London. In the Strand, in Piccadilly, in Regent-street, in the neighbourhood of London Bridge, in twenty places, there is a bustling crowd, a surging traffic, an amount of obstruction which our busiest and most frequented boulevard cannot parallel. Everything is on a large scale here; the clubs are palaces, the hotels are monuments; the river is an arm of the sea; the cabs go twice as fast; the boatmen and the omnibus-conductors condense a sentence into a word; words and gestures are economised, actions and time are turned to the utmost possible account: the human being produces and expends twice as much as among us.

THE PALAIS DE JUSTICE LIBRARY.—At the opening of the Court of Cassation at Paris, early last month, M. Renouard, the Procureur-Général, made a statement as to the number of volumes destroyed in the library when the Palais de Justice was set on fire during the last days of the Commune. The library was founded in the year 9 of the Revolution, from books belonging to the émigrés, convents, and other religious establishments, declared to have become national property. Citizens Merlin, Zangia, Comil, and Dannon made a choice of those considered desirable for the Tribunal of Cassation, and additions were made at intervals. At the time of the fire they amounted to as many as 51,000 volumes, of which 30,000 have perished. Among the volumes spared are a fine collection of theological works from the Convent of the Augustinians, from the Sorbonne, and the Abbaye Saint Victor; a MS. copy of the Registers of Parliament; a collection of books that formerly belonged to Cardinal Richelieu, with his arms on the covers; volumes from the library of the President de Harlay; the "Grand Coutumiers" of France; the "Gallia Christiana," and other valuable works, among them the admirable catalogue of the library, by the late M. Denevère.

LETTER-OPENING AT THE FRENCH POST OFFICE.—A pamphlet by M. Emile Lamby, an employé in the French Post office, recently published in Paris, gives some curious details about the "Cabinet Noir," as the department for opening letters from suspected persons is called in France. Letters were opened under Charles X. and Louis Philippe, but under the Second Empire the "Cabinet Noir" acquired an importance previously unknown. The discreditable office of head opener of letters was occupied by a man named Simonel, who, from M. Lamby's account, seems to have been singularly well fitted for the post he held. At first Simonel only stopped letters in obedience to a list sent to him from the Prefecture of Police. These letters were put in a bag and forwarded to the Prefecture, where they were opened and read. This proceeding was not illegal, as the Prefect of Police had, and still has, like the Home Secretary with us, a legal right to open any letters he thought fit. But M. Simonel had not been long in office when he was allowed to go a step further, and to open and read letters himself, on condition, it would seem, that he concealed the fact of their having been tampered with from those to whom they were addressed. Simonel's way of proceeding was as follows:—When a suspected letter fell into his hands he inserted the point of a very thin knife, specially made for the purpose, under the seal, then, by dint of steady pressure, and thanks to the skill acquired by long practice, he removed the seal whole and without tearing the envelope. The letter read, and if necessary copied, Simonel slightly warmed the bottom of the seal, to melt the wax sufficiently to attach it again to the paper. By this means he was enabled to defy detection. When letters were fastened with gum or a wafer it was still easier to open them: a few drops of hot water were all that was necessary. Foreign mail-bags passing through Paris were not respected any more than letters to be delivered in France by the unscrupulous Simonel, who had armed himself with a collection of the seals of every foreign Government. He was even provided with different sorts of foreign string, in order to disarm suspicion. It was only in extreme cases, however, that he went so far as to cut the string with which mail-bags from abroad are fastened, as he generally contrived to strain it enough to allow him to open the bag and take out the contents. No letters were safe from his prying eyes, and even M. Rothschild's financial correspondence was read by the indefatigable head of the "Black Cabinet," who also was in the habit of opening all the Empress's letters to her friends, and submitting them to her Imperial husband. A few years ago M. Vandal, the last Director-General of the Post Office under the Empire, was interpolated in the Corps Législatif with regard to the existence of the "Cabinet Noir," on which occasion he indignantly denied that any department for the opening of letters existed at the Hôtel des Postes. Five deputies were named at M. Vandal's request to inspect the Post Office personally and certify to the correctness of his statement. Of course, when they came to make an inspection M. Vandal was careful to show them all the departments of the Post Office except the "Cabinet Noir." M. Lamby affirms that the opening of letters in Paris ceased with the Second Empire—a statement which may or may not be correct.

AT THE DOCKS.

(From the "Daily News.")

An idle man, who has become confused of late amid the conflicting statements in regard to the dock labourers' wages, might do worse than try to get hired for the day at unloading a ship. There are innumerable objections to such a course, no doubt, but the first of these is the grave mischief of not knowing how to get between Mr. Du Plat Taylor and the dock companies on the one side, and Mr. T. Hughes, M.P., and Mr. Caulfield, the labourer, on the other. Mr. Taylor tells us that the alteration in the rate of pay of labourers is nominal rather than real; Mr. Caulfield insists that he loses something like 1s. 6d. a week by the alteration, his average earnings were about 19s. 6d. a week, and now, as we know from the dock companies, they cannot be more than 15s. In either case, our typical dock labourer lives on something under £1 a week; and it must be interesting to know how he contrives to do it, and what manner of man he is in the process.

Docks are open all day, and are easily accessible to men for hire. The winter is the busy time—what with the tea and spice ships coming in to unload; and the four or five of summer, say from middle of May to middle of September, are the dock labourers' real frost. But go when you will, waiting sheds you will find them crowded with men eager for their turn at a job; for, as this work is supposed to belong to the department of unskilled labour—though it cannot quite be said to do so—half the men in London who are quite hard up and want something to do make their way to the docks. It is a sad sight to see them huddled together in the rude sheds, like oxen, waiting for a customer; yet it is really worth a man's while to get an old coat and a wideawake and stand amongst them, if only for the sake of looking at certain questions of political economy from another point of view. We have heard of the contrast as to education and social position to be met amongst the "supers" at a theatre; but they cannot possibly be more numerous or more extraordinary than those presented by the different varieties of would-be labourers at the docks. On a certain day, for instance, a two or three hours' examination by a labourer, disguised for the occasion, resulted in the following partial analysis of the groups:—An engraver, who had nearly lost the use of his eyes, and was therefore unfit for his trade; a poor bent creature, with a chest not much broader than the palm of a drayman's hand. A commercial traveller, who had once driven a pair, and sold silk on commission, but who had been expelled from the bagmen's mess for some awkward deficiency in his accounts. A man-about-town, of the Haymarket species, who had walked the hospitals without ever getting through them, who had gone in for examination after examination, until his mother, who kept him, died, and who had thereafter lived on some little money she had left behind her, but only to plump at last into the abyss of utter shiftlessness and want. A very sad case, this; all the sadder from the frankness with which the man himself was willing to dwell on its worst features. If he had only been able to master anything during his long apprenticeship to things in general, he would not have cared. But, no; he had tried one game after another, and it would not do; a little "bosting" at billiards, but the intended victims bested him instead; quack doctoring and the "herbalists' dodge," but he had made one clumsy mistake and had had to cut and run for it; singing at the music-halls, but he could never make sure of his chest-note; and here he was at last at dock-labouring, and he wasn't fit for that, for a couple of hours' fetching and carrying dragged the very life out of him, and what with the drink and the late hours of old, there wasn't much to drag. Add to these specimens a tramp or two, whose waiting was a mere blind for any policeman about who might afterwards have to deal with their application for a casual's ticket, and any number of real honest labourers, whose appallingly miserable lot it was to have to hang about here all day with no better prospect than that of being taken on for a couple of hours at 4d. the hour, and we have a pretty fair sample of the kind of men who frequent the sheds at the docks. A broader classification of them all may be thus suggested: the bad are always trying to borrow a penny from the good for "baccy" or "half a pint;" but the good are no sufferers, for they never have the penny to lend, and they all meet on the common ground of poverty and hunger.

The sham labourer had always felt a most intense curiosity to know how his brother—the real one—could possibly keep body and soul together for self and family on 18s. or 19s. a week. He had read "How to Manage a House on £200 a Year," and thought that was a mere problem of impossibilities; and when it came to a question of how to manage it on something under £50, his powers of calculation wholly failed him. He had often essayed this more stupendous mental labour on the moderate assumption that himself, a wife, and three children were to be provided for on the sum. He could never do it, though. Once he came very near victory, but he found he had left the mother and young ones with nothing to eat for just a day and a half; and when he had fed them he was exactly a week behind with his rent. Finding himself at the docks, therefore, he would not miss the opportunity of getting helped out with his task by the man who must certainly have done it over and over again, and he found means to get from a labourer blessed with seven children the financial history of his day and of his week.

It was during the twenty minutes allowed for dinner. At the very outset of the business the labourer unconsciously cleared up half the mystery, for he produced his "mid-day meal" from a pocket-handkerchief, and the meal consisted of a lump of bread and a horror of the sausage tribe known as a saveloy.

"You see," said the labourer, "this costs a penny, and as for the bread, I can't quite reckon that up to a fraction, for it comes from home and gets lumped along with the home expenses. But, cut it as fine as you like, you can't feed a family at much under 18s. 6d. for six days!"

The questioner was disposed to agree with him—the more so when a subsequent visit to the home in question, a three-pair front in Bethnal-green, showed the liberal construction he placed upon the word food. For ragged trimmings from the butcher's stalls, dripping from the marine-store dealer's, and tea made of the sweepings of warehouse floors were all recognized by that underling title—"which makes 14s. 6d., with your rent at 4s.," pursued the man, biting off the end of his saveloy; "and then, dress 'em as bad as you like, it'll run into another shilling for clothes and boot leather, and there's 15s. 6d., with not so much as a drop of beer or a pipe of baccy accounted for."

He paused as though about to make a revelation, and then seemed suddenly to repent of his purpose. The listener divined the difficulty.

"And the drink and the smoking?"—"Well," said the labourer, hurriedly, "they may talk as they like, but it's a poor heart that never rejoices; and what with sometimes meeting a friend and sometimes having to fight the miserables all by yourself you can't do it under."

"Under what?"—"A shilling a week."

A shilling a week for dissipation! He might well look ashamed of himself.

"Sixpence for schooling," the labourer went on, as he gathered up his crumbs; "and that's 17s. 6d."—"And you have still 2s. left?"—"Yes; but where's your Sunday dinner? It ain't in a man's nature not to fancy a bit of something extra on that day."

The labourer had done the sum. But his capacity in this line evidently had its limits, for when he was asked to work it out again, with 15s. for a given total, he broke down. "I don't see how you are to do it," said he at last, after several futile combinations, "without cutting off the lodging and living in the open air, and then they'd have you under the Vagrant Act. No, it can't be done."

Mr. J. T. BEDFORD has been unanimously elected chairman of the City Commission of Sewers, in the room of Mr. Deputy De Jersey.

NEW BOOK BY BISHOP COLENSO.

BISHOP COLENSO appears determined not to be put down, even by the highest authority, and has published another volume of criticisms upon the text of the Bible, in which he deals as boldly with the subject as in any of his former writings. The work is a reply to the New Bible Commentary, which has been published, as Bishop Colenso contends, under the authority of the English Episcopal Bench. Some years ago the Speaker of the House of Commons suggested the idea of such a commentary as should meet the criticisms of the Bishop of Natal with the aid of the best modern scholarship. The composition of the work was settled, and the writers were appointed under the sanction of a committee which included the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Archbishop of York, the Bishop of London, the Bishop of Llandaff, the Bishop of Gloucester and Bristol, and others. The general editor is the Rev Canon Cook, who has been advised by a small committee, consisting of the Archbishop of York and the Regius Professors of Divinity at Oxford and Cambridge. Bishop Colenso assumes, therefore, that the "New Commentary" expresses the deliberate convictions of the Archbishops and Bishops. The first volume is devoted to the Pentateuch, and the task of writing an "Introduction to the Pentateuch," and an "Introduction to Genesis" has been intrusted to Dr. Harold Browne, the Bishop of Ely, the Divinity Professor to whom Bishop Colenso turned for "counsel and sympathy when, ten years ago, he first began to realise the difficulties involved in 'the traditional view' of the Bible. To those introductions he now offers an elaborate reply, taking up the criticisms of Dr. Browne one by one. For the most part they turn on minute points of Hebrew scholarship, which would not be intelligible to the general reader. The concluding passages of the preface, however, will show the scope of Bishop Colenso's new work:—

I feel that a crisis has arrived in the history of the Church of England, and that from the peculiar circumstances of the case—from the fact that this work is in some sort put forth as a kind of challenge to myself; as also that, having been so closely engaged in the examination of the Pentateuch, I have at my command without further labour the knowledge necessary to expose at once the numerous fallacies which Bishop Browne has here indorsed with all the authority of the English Episcopate, to be received and taught as religious truths—a duty is laid upon me which I cannot, if I would, evade; and my countrymen—at least those who have been interested in my writings—have a right to expect such a labour as this at my hands.

Above all, if no other reason existed for my discharging this duty, I feel bound to do so in the interests of the rising generation, and to protest against the monstrous wrong that will be done to them, if, in defiance of all the triumphs of science in the present day, such teaching as this is to be propagated in our schools and colleges as the teaching of the Church of England, with the additional weight and impulse which must be derived from the authority of this Commentary, if its statements are allowed to be circulated without a direct and complete contradiction. It is certainly a striking and very instructive fact that in this age we see on the one hand the Roman Church maintaining with all its might the infallibility of the Man; and on the other hand the Anglican Church maintaining with like zeal the idolatry of the Book—both from the same insane fear of the Truth which God is revealing more and more fully as the ages pass on, and both with the same blind disregard of the fatal consequences which must inevitably follow should their views prevail—namely, the unbounded spread of infidelity and atheism, with all the attendant laxity and license, in the next generation, as it is more and more clearly seen by the multitude that their religious guides have been, after all, but "blind leaders of the blind," and teachers and taught shall fall into the ditch together. My dread of this must be my excuse if at times I have spoken of Bishop Browne and his criticisms with a severity which I would not otherwise use towards one whose private virtues I have always respected, but which the part he has here taken in attempting to bind more closely than ever upon the necks of Englishmen the traditional yoke which Our Father, in His wise and gracious providence, has loosened for us in the present age and I intend us to cast off, must be held, I think, abundantly to justify.

The spirit in which Dr. Colenso writes is not inaptly illustrated by a quotation from Archbishop Whately's remarks on Bacon's Essays, which he conspicuously prints at the beginning of his book:—

He who propagates a delusion, and he who connives at it when already existing, both alike tamper with truth. We must neither lead nor leave men to mistake falsehood for truth. Not to undeceive is to deceive. The giving, or not correcting, false reasons for right conclusions, false grounds for right belief, false principles for right practice—the holding forth, or fostering, false consolations, false encouragements, or false sanctions, or convincing at their being held forth or believed—are all pious frauds. This springs from, and it will foster and increase, a want of veneration for truth; it is an affront put on the 'Spirit of Truth.'

TYPHOID FEVER.

THE circumstance that the Prince of Wales is unfortunately suffering from typhoid fever has attracted special attention to this disease, and affords an opportunity of giving some information as to its origin and character:—

Typhoid or enteric fever—for this disease has more than one designation—ranks among the zymotic diseases, and as such is eminently preventible. The more clearly to designate its origin, Dr. Murchison has proposed to call it pythogenic fever, which indicates the fact, now well established, that it is a malady induced by a poison bred from decomposing animal matter. Of this title the Registrar-General has more than once, in his annual reports, expressed his approval, on the ground that it keeps always before the mind the origin and characteristic mode of the diffusion of the disease. Typhoid fever is propagated chiefly by the emanations from bad drains or by pollution of the drinking-water. Its distinctive characters have only been clearly defined within the last twenty or thirty years, having at an earlier date been confounded with typhus and other forms of continued fever. It never prevails as a great epidemic, like typhus, nor is it contagious in the same sense that typhus is contagious; but its prevalence is local, and arises from the uniform action of the same original causes. It is most apt to occur in circumscribed epidemics at the end of autumn, or after a long continuance of warm weather. In the great majority of such outbreaks it has been possible to point out as a cause some serious defect in the drainage or in the purity of the water. But with our present system of drainage and peculiarities of house-building the most careful forethought has not always sufficed to prevent the generation of the poison. Although, therefore, typhoid fever may emphatically be denominated the fever of sanitary neglect, and although most outbreaks may be traced to neglect—often culpable neglect—of the authorities or of individual householders, such culpability or such carelessness must not be assumed to exist in every instance. Very extraordinary accidents and unlooked-for mischances have, before now, led to sharp outbreaks of enteric fever. Thus Dr. Murchison, in his standard work on the subject, relates incidents in which sudden explosions of typhoid fever, in apparently well-built and well-drained houses, have appeared at the outset so inexplicable as to give rise to suspicions of accidental or criminal poisoning. In these instances, the disease has been clearly traced to palpable contamination of air or water with sewer poison. It must by no means be inferred that the illness of the Prince of Wales has been contracted at Sandringham. There is, indeed, evidence which makes it unlikely that it was so. The disease is not one which immediately reveals itself. It has a varied and sometimes a protracted period of incubation. Sometimes symptoms characteristic of the fever will declare themselves within a day or two of exposure to the poison, and at other times not until after an interval of two or even three weeks. During this period the patient may seem to enjoy his usual health; and even when the disease shows itself, its onset is so insidious that it is often difficult, in taking a retrospective view of the symptoms, to fix precisely the date of the commencement of the malady, as it frequently begins with symptoms not differing in any essential respect from those of an ordinary febrile cold.

THE RAILWAY WORKMEN at CREWE, who have obtained the concession of fifty-four leave per week, have resolved to commemorate their success by the establishment of a scholarship, to be called "The Nine-Hours Scholarship." A committee has been appointed to take charge of the project.

EPPING FOREST

Two important bills in connection with Epping Forest will be introduced into Parliament during the ensuing Session. One, introduced by the Corporation of the City of London, seeks for powers to enable the Corporation to purchase all rights of the lords of the manors in Epping Forest, for the purpose of securing the forest for ever as a place of recreation for the public, subject to its use by persons having rights of common therein; to make by-laws, &c., for the management of the forest, and to apply for the purposes of the bill any moneys belonging to them or under their control, except moneys held on trust. The other, brought forward by the Commissioners of Works and Public Buildings, seeks to enlarge the powers of the Epping Forest Commissioners, appointed under the Epping Forest Act of last Session; to authorise the Commissioners to suspend, if they think fit, all legal and other proceedings now pending or hereafter instituted respecting forest rights, rights of common, inclosures of land, or any other matters to be inquired into by the Commissioners, until the expiration of the next Session of Parliament, after they have made their final report; to enable them to make provisional orders for the management of the forest; to prevent inclosures, waste, or destruction of vert, herbage, trees, or shrubs in the forest; and to give them exclusive jurisdiction over all pending proceedings in law or equity relating to the forest; and to authorise them to prohibit all future legal proceedings, except before them or under their direction. Power is also sought to suspend the action of the Verderers' and all other Courts, held under any Charter or Act relating to the forest, and, if necessary, to determine all proceedings taken thereunder; and to amend or repeal all Acts or charters relating to the forest. At a meeting of the Hackney District Board of Works, held on Friday night last, Mr. Runtz reminded the board that on a previous occasion he had stated that it was the intention of the City authorities to impose a tax upon corn for the purpose of meeting the expenses to be incurred in endeavouring to secure the preservation of Epping Forest. At that time he said his informant was Mr. Ayrton, the First Commissioner of Works; but a gentleman sitting opposite, Mr. Cox, denied that the statement was correct. Notices were, however, now appearing in the daily newspapers which proved he was right, and that the Council really intended to take a step that would virtually be putting a tax upon people's bread for the purpose of giving them a bit of grass. Mr. Cox, in reply, said the City Council did not contemplate such action as had been referred to. The Corporation had by charter and by custom a right to charge meterage upon all corn entering the port of London, and this had hitherto produced about £15,000 a year, which went into the City coffers, and would be expended as the council thought proper. After reading the notices to which reference had been made, he proceeded to explain that it was simply meant to substitute a system of toll instead of continuing the present one of meterage, which would reduce the revenue derived from this source about one third, and that on payment of all charges the net income in future would not exceed £6000 or £7000 a year. This fund it had been decided should be devoted to securing Epping Forest and maintaining it as a place of recreation for the public. The statement of Mr. Ayrton was as far from the real fact as it could well be, and the member who had introduced this subject would see that he had been keeping bad company and had received bad information.

VILLA GARDENS.

LITTLE trees are frequently recommended as being peculiarly adapted for small gardens, but it may be seriously questioned whether they, for the space they occupy and the attention they require to keep them to the size recommended, are of any value. Very large trees are, of course, as much out of place in the villa garden as very small trees are objectionable, and it may be safely said that pyramidal trees ranging from 5 ft. to 8 ft. in height, and from 2 ft. to 4 ft. in diameter, are the most suitable. Trees of these dimensions, practically speaking, take up but little room, for they can be planted alongside the walks, and the space between the trees and the walks cropped with enclading and other plants that will not impoverish the soil too much. They can also be planted in rows across the quarters at distances of about 12 ft. apart, and the spaces between filled with dwarf-growing subjects, so as not to deprive them of their fair share of light and air. Espaliers can also be planted by the side of the walks or across the quarters, and the vacant space cropped with vegetables, in the same manner as recommended above. Pear and apple trees trained as espaliers are best planted so as to present a face both to the east and to the west, and thus ensure both sides of the trees and all the fruit receiving full exposure to the sunshine. Cherry and plum trees may, on the other hand, be trained in a line running due east and west, so that one side of the tree has a north and the other a south aspect. As the fruit on the south side of the trees will attain maturity a few days sooner than that on the north, the season of each kind will be prolonged considerably. The planting of the trees must, however, be determined by the existing arrangements of the walks and quarters; and, so long as the trees are in an open position, the cultivator need not trouble himself much about the points of the compass to which the sides of the trees face. In purchasing pyramidal trees, select such as have a somewhat robust appearance, are well furnished with short jointed wood and fibrous roots, and are about 3 ft. in length, and of a proportionate diameter. They should be planted about 6 ft. apart in the rows, and 3 ft. from the side of the walks. The espalier trees should also be of fair size, and have about three horizontal shoots on each side of the leader. A distance of 10 ft. apart is the most desirable, but they may be planted either nearer or farther apart, according to the wish of the cultivator. Currant and gooseberry trees should be large enough to give promise of producing a crop of fruit the second season after planting, and should have stems not less than 15 in. in length. These should be planted in rows 4 ft. apart, and from 3 ft. to 4 ft. apart in the rows. If planted by the side of walks they should be about 30 in. from the walk, and a row of strawberry plants put between the trees and the walk, to prevent loss of space. All the fruit trees should be planted immediately they come from the nursery, or as soon after as the weather and the state of the soil will permit. For that reason the ground should be prepared before the trees are purchased. It should be dug or trenched to a moderate depth, and if it has become impoverished a moderate dressing of manure will be of considerable service in promoting a healthy growth. In ordinary good soils it is not desirable to apply manure to young newly-planted trees, because it encourages a gross luxuriant habit of growth and necessitates root-pruning before it would otherwise be desirable. In planting make the holes large enough to admit of all the roots, after the very longest fleshy roots have been shortened, being spread out horizontally. Make the holes a few inches greater in depth than the trees are to be planted, and then put in a few inches of soil from the surface, to spread the roots upon. Then fill in with soil, and place a layer of the most friable soil obtainable immediately over the roots, and tread the soil firm as the filling-in goes on. Stout stakes should be put to the trees immediately they are planted, to hold them securely in their place and prevent injury to the roots from the tree swaying to and fro. Dwarf bushes and espaliers will not require stakes; but the latter must be secured to the trellis soon after they are planted.—*The Gardener's Magazine.*

RAILWAY PROFITS.—The Board of Trade returns state that the net receipts of railway companies in the United Kingdom in the year 1870—that is to say, the gross receipts from all sources minus the working expenditure—amounted to £23,262,618; and that this is equal to 4.41 per cent on the amount of capital which had been received down to the end of that year. In the year 1868 this net profit was only 4.08 per cent on the capital; and in 1869 it was 4.22 per cent. It is mentioned, however, that several companies have not sent in their half-yearly accounts; it is presumed that they are not in a position to hold meetings of the shareholders, and consequently do not print accounts. The statement for 1871 will probably be more complete, as an Act of last Session imposes a heavy penalty for failing to make returns.

CAMP OF FRENCH TROOPS AT FLEURY.

THE efforts which are now being made in France to reorganise the matériel of the army are beginning to show some results, as may be gathered from the account, in another column, of the formation of the new Republican Guard; and among the interesting environs of the French capital the district of Fleury may be regarded as the most attractive to many of the people who wait anxiously for the appearance of a complete garrison, capable of undertaking the duty of a Paris contingent. We publish an illustration of the scene now presented in the suburb, where tents dot the sloping ground, and canteens or sheds for military stores are the principal buildings near the stream to which the cavalry take down their horses and the men do the regimental washing. The

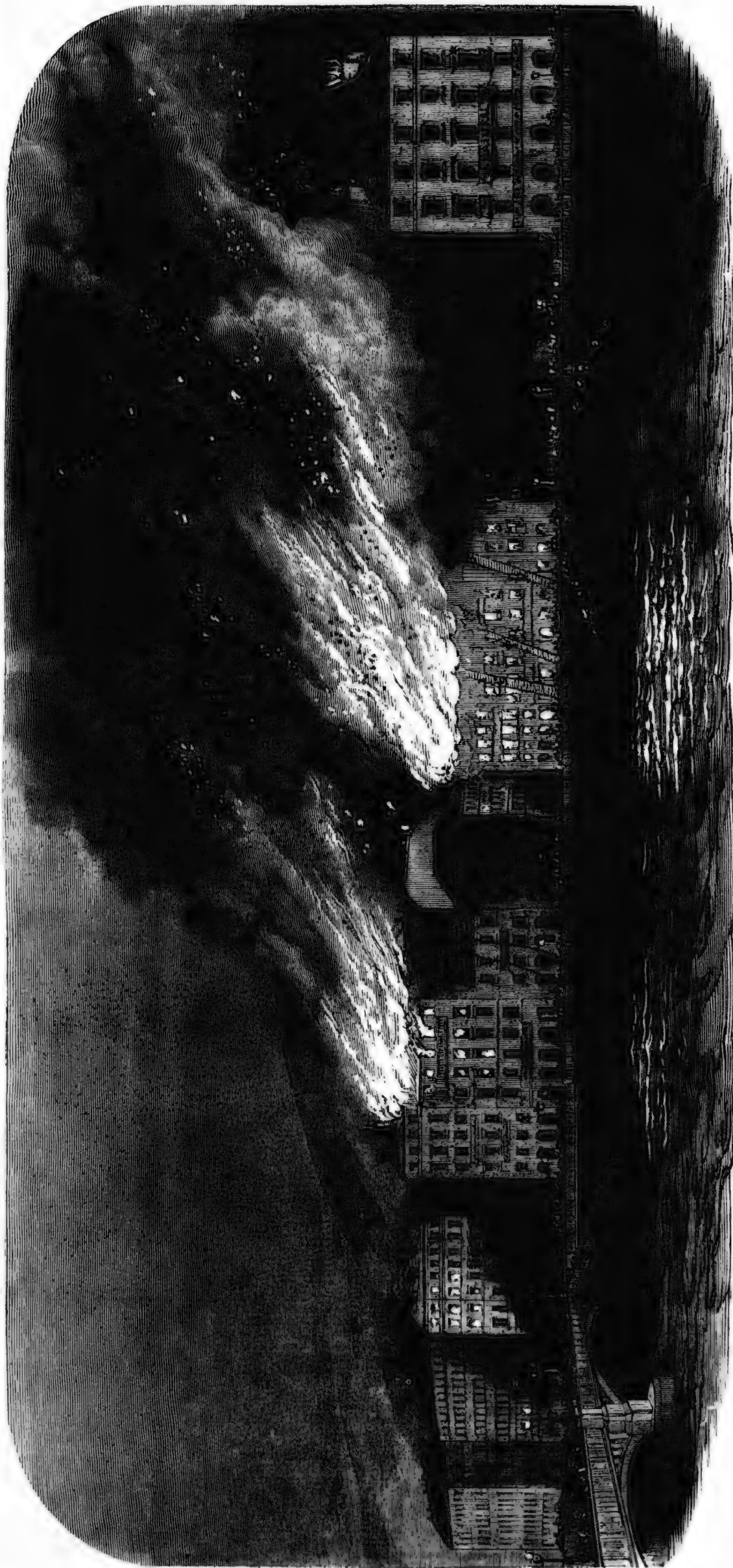
small camp may be said to be a scene of perpetual drill; but it will probably be only a temporary station, or, at all events, may soon cease to be more than a practice-ground, since the approaching winter will put an end to encamping under canvas for some months to come.

GREAT FIRE AT GENEVA.

SCARCELY the present year will be historically remarkable for the number of terrible conflagrations which are recorded in its annals. Intelligence of the latest of these sad events has come from Geneva, where, on Nov. 14, at about seven o'clock in the morning, a fire broke out in a house in the corner between the Quai du Rhône and a narrow street called "Ruelle du Lac" (which we may translate "Lake Alley"), where, the

oven belonging to a baker having been overheated, the chimney burst into flames, which communicated to the granary, or store-loft. This is the explanation given of a fire which quickly spread to the neighbouring house, occupied by the offices of the French Consulate, whence, carried by the wind, which was blowing from the north, it seized on the block of buildings between the open space by the port and that by the lake. The houses here were of great size, and were most of them entirely new structures, and occupied as *magasins de nouveautés*, jewellers' and watchmakers' showrooms, cafés, restaurants, hotels, and warehouses. Notwithstanding the efforts of the firemen, the whole of this mass of buildings was burnt to ashes, and all that could be done was to endeavour to check the further progress of the flames.

The assembled crowd watched with fearful anxiety the effects of the



GREAT FIRE AT GENEVA: VIEW FROM THE RHONE.

sounded in great haste: the fire had broken out afresh in the ruins of the Hôtel de la Couronne, close to the place where it had commenced. Happily, the command which had been sent to the firemen of the neighbouring communes had not reached them before they had started in obedience to the previous summons, and they arrived on the scene with ready aid; and, adding their efforts to those that were then being made, succeeded in mastering the conflagration by about five o'clock in the evening.

INVESTITURE OF M. THIERS WITH THE ORDER OF THE GOLDEN FLEECE.

THE ceremony of which we publish a representation, whatever may be its present significance, is at least historically suggestive. Never since

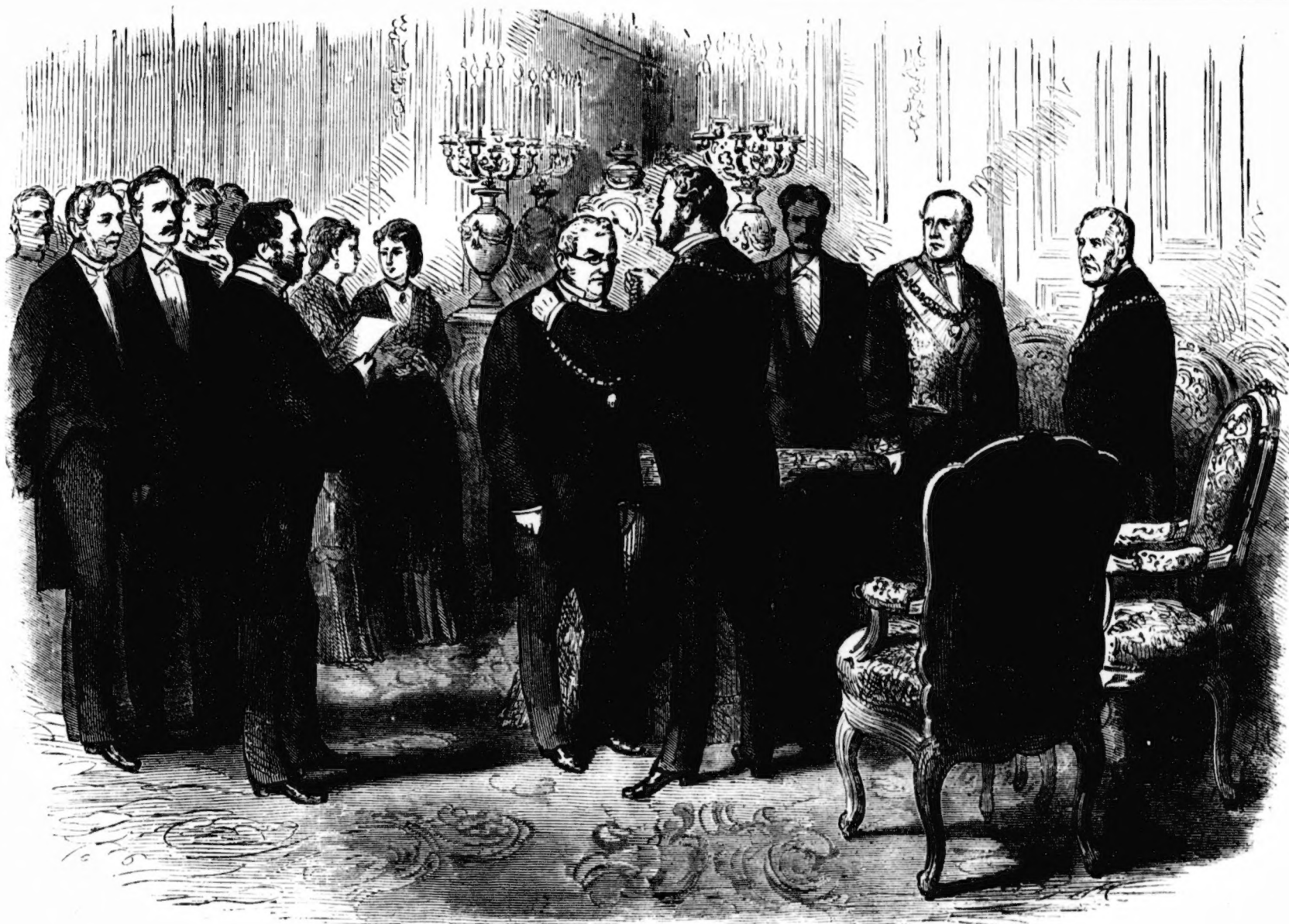
those Spanish marriages, the popular dislike for which had so great an influence on the subsequent insurrection which at last drove Louis Philippe from the throne, has an exchange of decorations taken place between France and Spain. It would seem, indeed, as though Spanish affairs come to embroil France in the most critical periods of her career, for it was an interference in the disposition of her crown that became the ostensible if not the actual cause of the war which has brought about such sad results for the French nation. We are, however, very far from attaching any superstitious importance to the interchange of state civilities between M. de Olozaga, the Spanish Ambassador, and the President of the Republic, who was in his early youth when the Golden Fleece was brought to Paris, and now receives his new honours like a veteran of statesmanship. It was fitting that when the Ambassador presented himself at Versailles with the insignia of this ancient

Order M. Guizot, as well as the Prince de Ligne, should stand sponsors to the illustrious recipient; and that, on the part of the Spanish Legation, the members of which had all assembled, Senor Hernandez, First Secretary of the Embassy, and Senor Calvo, the Consul, should perform the part of "gruffiers." On handing the casket containing the jewels to M. Thiers, the Ambassador said, "I am charged by the king of Spain, supreme chief of the illustrious Order of the Golden Fleece, to bring to you these insignia. You will, on your part, engage, in receiving them, to conform yourself in all things to the rules of the Order, of which you are bound to make every effort to augment the glory by your deeds and your merits."

M. Thiers replied in the warmest terms to the Ambassador, who then reminded the President that it had been to him a great happiness to fulfil such a mission as that which had been intrusted to him, and that

wind, which drove the fire towards the ancient portion of the city, which is in that direction composed of a dense quarter. There the houses are mostly six or seven storeys high, and separated only by narrow and winding streets, where it would be almost impossible effectually to work the fire engines. One great flake of burning material falling in the midst of such a neighbourhood would be sufficient to set the whole town in a blaze, and leave little but a vast heap of blackened ruins; but the strenuous efforts of the firemen, aided by the people who voluntarily offered their assistance, were successful in averting the calamity. Towards noon an evident impression was made upon the burning mass, and the flames began to diminish. The civic authorities, who had telegraphed for aid from the canton of Vaud and from Savoy, countermanded their requests; but they had been too precipitate. At one o'clock the tocsin was

it would always be one of his dearest recollections. The attachés of the Embassy then warmly congratulated M. Thiers, and in their turn received respectively (with marks of satisfaction) a cross of Commander, three crosses of Officer, and three of Chevalier, of the Legion of Honour. It may not be the least interesting or significant reference to this latest investiture of the Spanish Order to remark that the collar which sparkled on the breast of M. Guizot ("Huguenot") is the same that once decorated his Most Catholic Majesty Philip II., the gloomy and indefatigable Sovereign who, in the margin of one of the many despatches of the Secretary of State (extracted from the archives of Simancas, and published in M. Gachard's Secret Correspondence of Philip II.), wrote with a fine pen, in a close, hard hand, "Il faut cosper les têtes"—the heads of Protestants, of course.



INVESTITURE OF M. THIERS WITH THE ORDER OF THE GOLDEN FLEECE.

JUSTICE IN FRANCE.

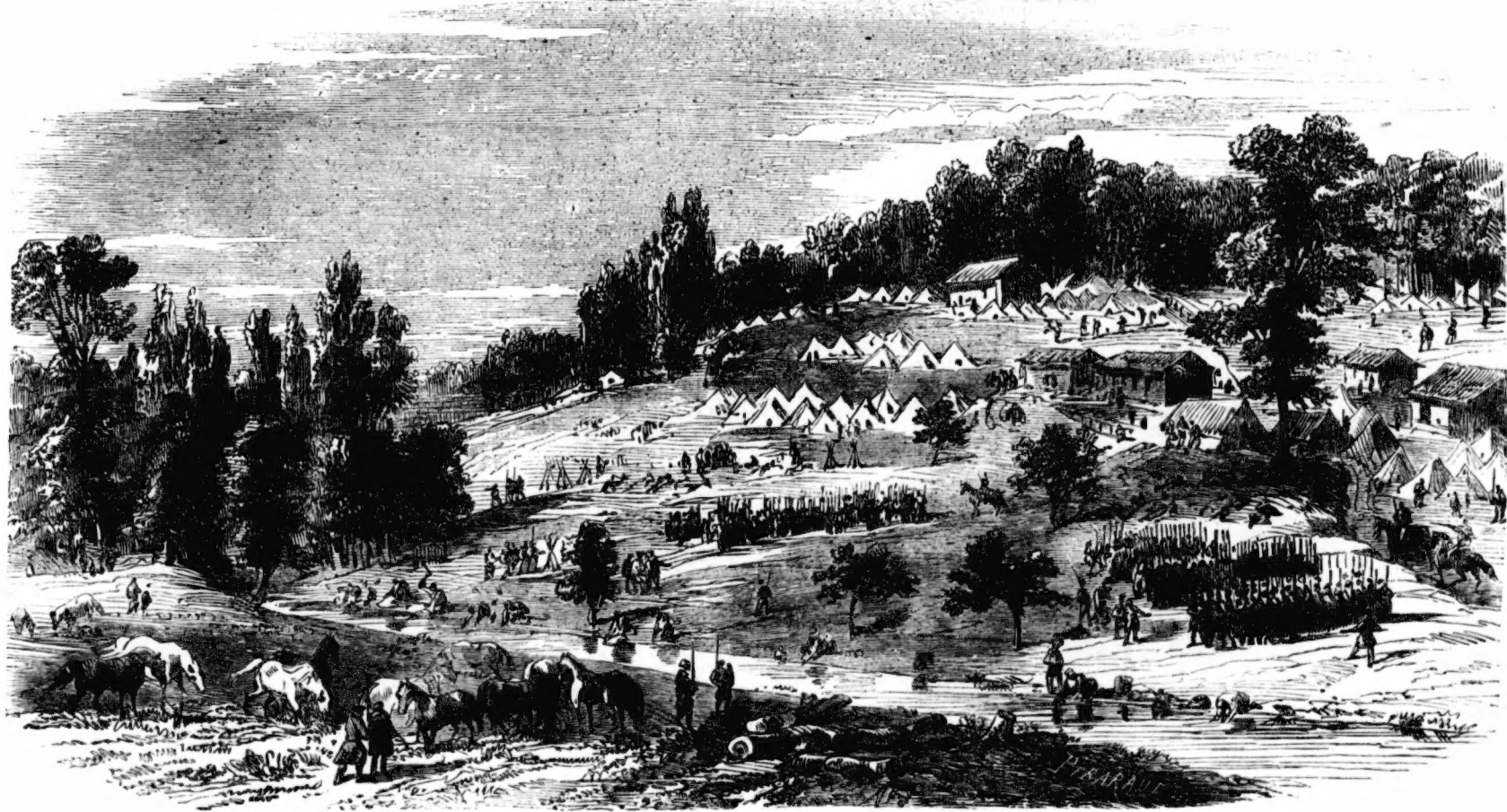
THE subjoined statements, which we extract from a letter from Paris in a daily contemporary, illustrate the manner in which justice is dispensed in France just at present.

HOW PRUSSIAN FARE IN CIVIL COURTS.

A scandalous instance has occurred of the triumphant acquittal of a murderer of a German soldier; and this time a Seine jury has incurred the disgrace of denying justice and glorifying crime. The facts are undisputed. On Sept. 5 last a discharged French soldier named Desiré Narcissus Caesar Tonnelet, who had been carried a prisoner into Germany from Metz, went to dine with some friends at a tavern at Fontenay, near Vincennes. Over the bottle the remark was made that there were Prussians not further off than the neighbouring village of Nogent. Thereupon the hero of Metz, Narcissus Caesar, expressed the opinion that they ought all to be killed, adding that, for his own part, if he could only catch one "in a corner" he would do for him. Subsequently he offered to bet two bottles of wine that he would kill a Prussian

before night. The repast over, at about four in the afternoon, the party sallied forth and marched towards Nogent. They were all more or less the worse for liquor, but it was in evidence that Narcissus Caesar was the least drunk of the lot. They insulted and threatened several German soldiers and a Prussian officer walking with his wife. The officer passed on without taking any notice. The prisoner ran several yards after one Prussian, swearing he would kill him; but he thought better of it, and rejoined his comrades. At half-past six in the evening, when the revellers had got as far as the hamlet of Monterau, Narcissus Caesar, seeing a German soldier walking peaceably on the other side of the road, ran across and asked him if he was not a Prussian. The man, who turned out to be a private in the 2nd Thuringian Regiment, named Denmuller, replied, "Yes, I Saxon, thou French." Thereupon Narcissus Caesar drew an open knife which he had concealed about his person and stabbed Denmuller with it so vigorously that he fell dead on the spot. The party ran away. Narcissus Caesar, being swifter of foot than the others, escaped to Paris. Some of his friends were arrested; but, as they were only spectators of the

murder, the Germans released them. French justice has just had to deal with the assassin in the Paris Assize Court. The presiding Judge, M. Thevenin, in a series of leading questions, encouraged the prisoner to complain of bad feeding and ill-usage, which he had endured when a prisoner in Pomerania. In consequence of this ill-treatment, he admitted having said that if the war were to recommence he would willingly sacrifice his life to kill a Prussian. "Oh!" exclaimed the Judge, "if that were all, I should praise instead of blame you; we all hate them; but what the witnesses prove is that you said you would kill a Prussian if you could get him in a corner; that is a widely different thing. Kill your enemy if you can on the battle-field; but don't assassinate him. Our national dignity is interested not to tolerate such a deed." The prisoner then pretended that Denmuller had struck him in the face and put his hand on the hilt of his sword, and that he had drawn the knife in self-defence. Being reminded by the Judge that he had never said anything of the kind on his first examination, he offered the excuse that he then had a bad cold and was bothered. The evidence clearly



THE CAMP AT FLEURY, NEAR PARIS.

showed that the plea of self-defence was an afterthought, and that the murdered man was attacked without any provocation whatever. Moreover, Me. Lachaud, the prisoner's counsel, did not place his defence upon this ground. The Advocate-General Thomas, in a short speech for the prosecution, said truly enough that, whatever the feelings of the jury might be, it would be dangerous not to do justice even to Prussians, because they were still in possession of six departments, and might be provoked to take terrible reprisals. Me. Lachaud said he hardly thought it necessary to address the jury, as he well knew they would never give a verdict against an honest fellow who had been actuated by a deep feeling of patriotism. His client belonged to a respectable family, was a good workman, had never belonged to political societies, and his brother had received six wounds while fighting the Germans. Who could blame him for hating the Prussians? In this hatred lay the hope and the honour of the country. The Prussians were so treacherous that they were not entitled to French justice. French diplomacy was honest, but that of Prussia was not. It was all very well to talk about national dignity and impartial justice. These were fine words, by listening to which France would always be a dupe. Prince Bismarck would be the first to laugh if the jury were simple enough to convict his client. These were times in which ordinary ideas of justice must be suspended. When Prussia behaved better it would be time to resume them. He concluded by reading an article from the *Gaulois*, complaining of hardships inflicted upon the population of Eprenay, where lately a countryman of Narcissus Caesar, who has not been discovered, murdered a German in the streets. Me. Lachaud's doctrine was adopted by the jury, and apparently by the audience, which greeted the acquittal by a murmur of applause, which would have been more marked had not the Judge repressed the commencement of the manifestation.

HOW MILITARY TRIBUNALS DEAL WITH JOURNALISTS.

While the murder of an inoffensive Prussian is regarded as a meritorious act by the civil tribunals of France, justice of a widely different quality is administered by the Versailles court-martial. The third Court has astonished and terrified the Parisian journalists by inflicting upon M. Louis Ulbach, the editor of the *Cloche*, the tremendous sentence of three years' imprisonment and 6000*fr.* fine for having been so bold as to entice the Court's proceedings. On Nov. 10 a young man named Daprat, who wrote accounts of the corn and vegetable markets in the *Cloche*, was tried before this court-martial for having borne arms under the Commune. M. Ulbach, being called as a witness to character, was asked very roughly both by the President and the Judge-Advocate whether the *Cloche* had not supported the Commune. On denying the imputations and referring to the notorious fact that he was in great danger from the Commune and had hidden himself to avoid arrest, the Judge-Advocate said, "Oh! that does not matter. Rochefort also ran away, and yet he was for the Commune." M. Daprat, for whose career as a Communist officer M. Ulbach was in no way responsible, was sentenced to transportation. The next day M. Ulbach wrote in the *Cloche* an article expressive of astonishment that the President should have accused the *Cloche* of supporting the Commune, and lamenting, in terms certainly not complimentary to the Court, but at the same time by no means violent, that such "profound ignorance" of current events should prevail among military officers, upon whom, as matters stand, the responsibility devolves of judging the most complicated and delicate military questions in the last resort. Had M. Ulbach stopped here, probably no harm would have happened to him. But when he had finished his article he committed the extreme imprudence of sending a copy of his paper, under cover, to every member of the court-martial. This was a most unjustifiable, as well as a foolish, proceeding. Judges, whether civil or military, could not perform their duties with independence and necessary comfort if they were liable to be harassed by personal complaints from anybody who may feel aggrieved by their decisions. M. Ulbach, by sending the paper in such a way as to call the attention of the members of the court individually to his article, put himself in direct personal collision with them, set them at defiance, and left it to be inferred, if they took no notice of the challenge, that they were wrong and he was right. This, which was the strong point of the Court, is not, however, the one on which it has taken action. M. Ulbach was not indicted for contempt of court, but for a "false report" of a trial, and for defamation. The objection that his article was not a report at all, but merely a criticism, was disposed of at once by the Judge-Advocate, who said that a single "word" relative to the proceedings of a court-martial constituted a report. The falsity in this case consisted in representing the president to have "asserted" that the *Cloche* supported the Commune, whereas he merely asked the question whether it did not support the Commune. M. Ulbach will carry sympathy with him when he asks whether such a question put to him in an imperious tone by the Court was not equivalent to an assertion. And yet for this "false report" alone he is condemned to three years' imprisonment; for on the charge of defamation, consisting in taxing the members of the Court with ignorance, he was found not guilty.

MUSIC.

"LES HUGUENOTS" was produced at the Royal Italian Opera last Saturday night, and attracted the usual large audience. Meyerbeer's opera is always a reliable card in any managerial pack. The interest of its story, the skill with which its plot runs on to the final dénouement, and the splendour of its mise en scène, are all features materially helpful to this end. But, on the other hand, "Les Huguenots" demands resources which few lyric theatres possess; and it is highly creditable to Mr. Mapleson that, during a winter season, he is able to put forward a tolerably good representation. Valentina was, of course, personified by Mdle. Titiens, who long ago made the character her own, and still retains it unchallenged. It is useless to go over again all the points of excellence she displays. Enough that, from beginning to end of the opera, Mdle. Titiens was fully equal to the most exacting demands. Madame Trebelli again assumed her favourite part as the page, Urbano, and again won an encore for her charming delivery of "Nobil Signor." Marguerite was represented in no very striking fashion by Mdle. Colombo. The male characters were sustained more or less well; Signor Fancelli, for example, acquitting himself with much distinction as Raoul, particularly in the great duet, the severe demands of which he met in a fashion scarcely anticipated. He was recalled at the close of the act and warmly applauded. Signor Agnesi presented an excellent St. Bris; Signor Mendioroz was effective as Nevers; and in Signor Antonucci the faithful old Huguenot soldier had a bluff and hearty representative. As regards the mise en scène we need not speak.

The operas played during the present week have been "Lucia," on Monday; "La Traviata," on Tuesday; and "Les Huguenots," on Wednesday (morning performance). For Thursday "Don Pasquale" was announced; and for Friday, "Robert le Diable."

A concert took place, at St. James's Hall, yesterday week, when Rossini's "Stabat Mater" was performed by the band, chorus, and principals of the Royal Italian Opera, with whom was specially associated Mr. Sims Reeves. Our great tenor sang "Cujus animam" in his own unequalled way, and found worthy colleagues in Mdle. Titiens and Madame Trebelli, whose rendering of "Quiesce homo" had to be repeated. The "Inflammatus," of course, made a great effect, its solo being splendidly given by Mdle. Titiens. Sir Julius Benedict conducted, and the large audience was further entertained by a miscellaneous selection of pieces introducing Mdle. Marie Marimon and other operatic artists.

Mozart's "Jupiter" symphony was the pièce de résistance at the Crystal Palace concert of Saturday last, and rarely has that noble work had a finer rendering. It was played almost, if not quite, to perfection. Other features of note in the programme were the overture to Sir Sterndale Bennett's "May Queen," Mendelssohn's second pianoforte concerto (in D minor), and the

same composer's "Ruy Blas" overture. This "feast of fat things" was, unhappily, spread before a rather scanty array of guests; but the enjoyment of those present did not seem any the less on that account. The solo pianist was Mr. Charles Hallé; and the vocalists comprised Mdle. Jeanne Devries, Signor Vizzani, and Signor Borella. We should add that Mr. Hallé played, in his own neat way, Heller's difficult caprice on the beautiful melody by Schubert known as "La Truite," a melody the composer not only set to words, but used as a theme in one of his great compositions for the chamber.

On the same afternoon Mr. A. Chappell gave the second of his Saturday concerts at St. James's Hall, Madame Néruda, MM. Ries, Zerbini, and Piatti being again the "quartet." Madame Arabella Goddard the solo pianist, and Herr Stockhausen the vocalist. Madame Goddard gave a splendid interpretation of Beethoven's sonata in A flat (with the Funeral March), and roused her audience to enthusiasm by playing the brilliant finale in a style absolutely perfect. Those who know the movement referred to will comprehend all that is involved in this statement. Herr Stockhausen had to repeat Schubert's "Wanderer," which he sings better than any vocalist now before the public.

The last Monday Popular Concert again brought forward Madame Arabella Goddard, who this time introduced Schubert's beautiful fantasia-sonata in G major. Madame Goddard—the pioneer of classical pianoforte music—was the first to introduce Schubert's work to an English audience, and nobody plays it like herself even now. Well acquainted with the minutest shade of its meaning, she brings the entire sonata in all its fullness before those who have ears to hear. Thus it was on Monday evening. The programme also comprised Mozart's favourite clarinet quintet, and his sonata for violin and piano in F major, as well as Haydn's quartet in D minor. From this enumeration the amateur reader will understand how interesting a concert was given, and with what zest it was enjoyed by a large and intelligent audience.

INSTRUCTION IN SCIENCE AND ART FOR WOMEN.

PROFESSOR DUNCAN delivered another of his series of lectures on "Physiography," on Wednesday, at the South Kensington Museum, making some further observations on the subject of "denudation," more particularly with regard to the action of ice, one of the most remarkable of the various denuding agents by which the peculiarities of the landscape are determined. By way of illustration he described, in the first place, the traces of the action of ice in former times in the region of Snowdon, in North Wales, and its effect in denuding the mountains and valleys, and producing their general contour. He described the locality with the aid of a diagram, giving a view of Snowdon and the Pass of Llanberis, as seen by the traveller in going along by the usual route from Bangor. In this pass, at different elevations, varying from 150 ft. to 250 ft., are to be seen peculiar markings in the rocks, as if traced out by means of a gigantic chisel. They are parallel, and are cast into the hard slate, which in the neighbourhood of these markings, undulations, or strim, are more or less polished. There are also to be seen along the pass a number of rounded, dome-shaped rocks, some of them as well polished as the old tombs of hard stone to be seen in the British Museum. In the same valley, a little way up the hill sides, may be seen large blocks of stones placed upon smaller ones, and evidently not placed there by any human strength or ingenuity. These peculiarities are common, in a greater or less degree, to all the valleys in the region of Snowdon. In one of the side valleys of Llanberis, where similar features present themselves, it will be observed that where it enters the main valley a quantity of material has been accumulated, and this is found on examination to consist of very fine mud, and to contain stones of all sizes, mostly of an angular shape, such as those referred to in the previous lecture as the result of denudation by ice. All these stones can be traced to rocks in the pass or the mountain. The position of the strim, which in some of the valleys reach to an elevation of 300 ft., shows that the cutting down of the valleys could not have been due to a river, and at once suggests that some other great force must have been employed in the work. The same peculiar traces are to be found in several other of the valleys of Wales, and in those of Cumberland and other parts of the country. At the present time we have no instance in this country of similar peculiarities being formed, but we have not far to go to find such instances. They are to be found in Norway and in Switzerland. The "everlasting snow" of the Alps presents to the spectator at some distance a scene of great quietude—it seems, in fact, the very emblem of quietude. But as the mountains are approached it is seen that a vast amount of denudation is going on, with which that snow has something to do. In the upper portions of all those narrow valleys, which have steep sides, and where torrents run, there are being formed striations and other features similar to those to be found in the valleys about Snowdon. The example is perfect as regards all the different peculiarities that have been mentioned as existing in North Wales. The lecturer then proceeded, with the assistance of a diagram, which gave an excellent view of a glacier with its mountain accessories, to describe the conditions under which glaciers are formed, and their mode of operation as denuding agents, explaining that the point to which the snow reaches downwards on the mountains and melts, or ceases to be perennial or "perpetual," is called the "snow line;" that the perennial snow collects in great thickness, and consolidates in the upper valleys above the snow line, or snow level, and, under the influence of pressure and alternate partial thawing and freezing, turns into masses of ice, which, under the name of glaciers, fill up the valleys more or less; that the rocks on the side of the glacier valley are denuded by the sub-aerial agents, the detritus falling on the glacier and into the cracks and fissures of the ice; that as the glacier moves slowly downwards both the glacier and its included detritus scrape the sides and floor of the valley and "denude" them; and that the results of the denudation of the valley by all the usual agents and by ice in motion are carried down to the termination of the glacier, forming there what is called a "terminal moraine," which would correspond to the accumulation of material already noticed as appearing at the termination of one of the valleys of Snowdon. The amount of denudation which goes on in this way, the Professor suggested, may be imagined from the fact that some of these glaciers of the Alps extend to as much as 20 miles in length, while some of them attain a height of 600 ft. to 700 ft. above their own floor. At certain periods, under unusual heat, the glaciers "recede," or are so reduced as to leave their channels to a certain extent exposed to view. This occurs during the hot wind called "fohl," which sometimes blows in Switzerland. It blows from the Desert of Sahara, northwards and north-westwards, striking against the Alps, and thawing large quantities of the snow and ice. Traces are then to be found precisely similar to those already described as occurring in the region of Snowdon. Having shown that similar traces are being produced by the action of ice in other parts of the world where perpetual snow lies, as in the regions of the Himalayas and the Andes, and in Norway and Iceland, Professor Duncan pointed out that, Snowdon being below the snow line in our existing climate, no such operations can take place in that quarter now. When glaciers were formed in the valleys of Snowdon, that mountain was probably little, if at all, higher than it is at present; but the climate of this country generally was very different.

LONDON SCHOOL BOARD.—At Wednesday's meeting of the London School Board there was a discussion upon a report of the Scheme of Education Committee, and eventually a resolution, moved by Professor Huxley, was carried, after having been amended. It declared that in one of the new schools about to be built the children of the junior and senior schools should, as in Germany, be divided into classes of not more than eighty each, with a special teacher for each class, and that a separate room be provided for every class, the general school-room being available for one class. It was stated that a "rich public trust" had undertaken to erect schools in the Tower Hamlets district.

THE TICHBORNE TRIAL.

ON Friday week Henry Jackson, a gardener at Poole, and George Beaken, a sergeant of police in the same town, were called to speak to the claimant's identity. The evidence of the last-mentioned witness did not agree in all respects with the statements contained in his affidavit, and, upon the Judge putting some questions during the Attorney-General's cross-examination, Sergeant Ballantine objected to the queries being simultaneously directed to the man both from the Bar and the Bench. The Chief Justice protested against the interference of the learned counsel, who expressed a hope that his Lordship would not make any remarks until the end of the case. Sir W. Bovill replied that he should make what observations he pleased, and told Sergeant Ballantine that he could say what he liked when it came to his turn to address the jury. His Lordship afterwards explained that an innocent man had once been sentenced by him to ten years' penal servitude upon the testimony of the police, and he was, perhaps, more sensitive than others to an incident which showed that a policeman had stated in evidence the direct contrary of what he had sworn in his affidavit. Mr. Baigent, whose name has been so often mentioned in the course of the trial, was the next witness, and his narrative of the events and circumstances which induced him to espouse the cause of the claimant was of a highly interesting character.

The interest in the case was, on Monday, greater than upon any occasion since the trial was resumed on the 7th last. Mr. Baigent was under cross-examination during the whole of the day. He incidentally stated that he was connected with the Tichborne family by marriage; that he had separated from his wife, a lady of property, four or five days after the ceremony; and that he did not know where she was now residing. A great deal of the cross-examination turned upon some expressions used by the witness in correspondence with others respecting the claimant's right to the estates, and in one or two of which the latter and the Dowager Lady Tichborne were referred to in not very complimentary terms.

Tuesday's proceedings again consisted wholly of the cross-examination of Mr. Baigent at the hands of Mr. Hawkins. The witness complained several times that the learned counsel was unduly pressing him, and at length, on Mr. Hawkins asking him, "Now, did it not strike you as strange?" Mr. Baigent interrupted with a loud and emphatic "No!" Sergeant Ballantine came to his assistance, saying he had already answered the question half a dozen times, the witness amending the declaration by saying that he had given a dozen answers, and that the interrogatories were repeated only to annoy him. As he complained of being bewildered, a brief adjournment took place.

On Wednesday and Thursday Mr. Baigent's cross-examination once more engrossed attention. In the course of the proceedings on Wednesday an important fact bearing upon the conduct of the trial was mentioned. Sergeant Ballantine spoke of Mr. Hawkins's cross-examining from printed copies of the shorthand writer's notes, which, moreover, had been furnished to the Judge. The claimant's counsel, however, had no such copy—they could not afford it. The Attorney-General retorted by quoting the number of the claimant's counsel, and the circumstance that he kept his brougham. The Judge also remarked on the fact that the plaintiff had given 200 *gs.* for a horse, and added that with regard to the counsel employed, it could hardly be expected that they appeared without being paid. To this Sergeant Ballantine replied that, having undertaken the case, counsel would not abandon it simply because their fees were not forthcoming. The Judge expressed his surprise at this announcement, whereupon the Attorney-General intimated that "it must not be supposed, because the statement has been made on one side only, it does not apply to the other."

HEARINGS AND MARRIAGES.—The connection between herrings and marriages may not be obvious to all, but the Scottish registers make it clear enough. In the returns for the third quarter of the present year the registrar of Fifeburgh states that the herring fishery was very successful, and the value of the catch, including casks and curing, may be set down at £130,000 sterling, and the marriages were 80 per cent above the average. On the other hand, the registrar of Tarbat has to report a steady falling off in the fishing at that creek, and consequently the quarter passed without an entry in the marriage register. The registrar of Lochgilphead also returns that the herring fishery has been a failure in the loch, and states that this accounts for the blank in the marriage column this quarter. One registrar, in his return for the quarter, reports marriages in his district "like angels' visits, few and far between;" at the fishing villages it may be put more briefly—no herring no wedding.

FEVER AND SMALLPOX IN LONDON.—The returns presented at the meeting of the Metropolitan Asylums managers last Saturday showed that fever was greatly increasing, no less than fifty cases having been admitted at Homerton during the fortnight, and there are now eighty-nine patients there, against forty-seven a fortnight ago. Smallpox maintained the same high number of fresh cases as a fortnight ago, but there was no apparent increase. In the report presented by Dr. Gayton, the medical superintendent of the Homerton Hospital, complaint was made that sufficient discretion was not exercised by parish authorities in sending cases to the hospital, and the manner in which this duty was carried out was also complained of. One case was given as an illustration. A poor woman named Downs, who lived in Birdseye-walk, Bethnal green, was confined on the 16th ult., and on the next day a rash which came out on her was pronounced to be smallpox. The woman and her infant were taken to the hospital in the parish ambulance, and although the night was extremely cold, "no means appeared to have been taken to ensure any extra comfort during the journey." The woman was found upon her arrival to be in a truly deplorable condition, and she died on the evening of the 19th. Dr. Gayton stated that he was unable to satisfy himself that it was either judicious or necessary to have removed the poor woman, especially as she was suffering from the effects of recent childbirth. A large number of patients admitted had, he stated, from the outset been considered to be without a reasonable chance of recovery, and a few had been received actually in *extremis*. He complained that the Whitechapel authorities had sent smallpox patients in an ambulance which had conveyed fever patients, and this without previous disinfection. The medical superintendent of the fever asylum reported that patients had been sent from Whitechapel in the same vehicle which had conveyed smallpox patients, and he drew attention to the complications likely to arise in consequence. It was resolved that Dr. Gayton's report should be sent to the Bethnal-green guardians, and to the Local Government Board. It was also resolved that a circular letter should be sent to the local authorities, desiring that separate conveyances should be used for fever and smallpox patients.

THE ENDOWED SCHOOLS BILL.—PART II.—At the meeting of the Social Science Institution, on Monday evening—Dr. Lyon Playfair, M.P., in the chair—the subject considered was the desirability of re-introducing into Parliament the second part of the Endowed Schools Bill (1869), which contemplated the establishment of an educational council. The discussion was opened by Mr. J. Fitch, who maintained that, although the operations of the existing commission in framing schemes for the management of endowed schools might set matters right, it was necessary to have some permanent authority, as originally contemplated by the Government Bill, in order to keep them right. At the same time, he was not prepared to commit himself unreservedly to the details of the constitution of the council proposed in that part of the measure; and appeared to look a good deal to the establishment of a Ministry of Education to solve the difficulties of the question, and to assign to the Universities and other educational agencies and authorities their proper places in a harmonious scheme. Mr. Pears maintained that unless the second part of the Endowed Schools Bill became law there would be no security that these institutions would not fall back into their old evil condition, and that no assistance would be given to the improvement of private schools by the examination of their teachers. Mr. J. Heywood doubted the propriety of re-introducing the second part of the Bill of 1869 precisely as it was originally framed, because he feared that, as the council was to be constituted under that measure, too much influence would be given to the classical element and too little importance would be assigned to the study of modern languages.—Mr. B. Chadwick dwelt upon the importance of improved and extended scientific training. Mr. Barrow Rule asserted that teachers generally enthusiastically approved of the measure under consideration; and this view was supported by several other gentlemen. At the close of the discussion the chairman announced that he had that very afternoon had a long conversation with Mr. W. E. Forster, who, so far from having abandoned "his desire" to pass the second part of the Endowed Schools Bill, was prepared to re-introduce either that or some other measure directed to the same ends, as soon as the state of public business would permit. For his own part, he did not think there was any hope of passing such a bill next Session; but had good hopes that, if they pressed for it in 1873, their efforts would be attended with success. A resolution (moved by Mr. Chadwick, and seconded by Mr. Heywood) was adopted, asking the council of the association to urge upon the Government the importance of re-introducing the bill, and the proceedings concluded with the usual vote of thanks to the chairman.

BRIGANDAGE IN ITALY.

A LETTER from Naples, under date Nov. 22, 1871, says:—"Manzoni, the brigand chief, who captured Mr. Moens and the Rev. Mr. Ainsley, is again at large, and the province of Salerno is in a state of consternation. Notwithstanding the state of consternation, the Neapolitan journals relate that the authorities were apprised by himself of his intentions, unwittingly, indeed, as a letter which was written to a friend, saying that he would see him in a few days, fell into the hands of the Prefect of Salerno. Intelligence of this was sent to the Minister, who rather pooh-poohed the affair, but still gave orders for his removal to Chieti, thinking by such a measure to thwart the plans of the notorious chief. His new residence, however, would seem to have offered yet greater facilities for escape, as he soon accomplished it, and is now over the hills and far away. In the intercepted letter there were threats of vengeance against the jury, the Liberals, and, in one word, against all his enemies—threats which he is now at liberty to carry out if he can, and which he no doubt will, if the opportunity presents itself. Hence there is a great panic in the province of Salerno, and the local journals say that people scarcely dare to put their heads outside their doors. Outlawed as he is, and hunted by a military force, Manzoni has no resource but crime; and, even if he were likely to be kept in check by apprehensions of consequences, he well knows that they cannot be worse than the punishment from which he has just escaped. A few murders, or a few more extorted ransoms, will not put him in a worse position, and he is very likely, therefore, to enjoy to the full the sweets of vengeance. It is not likely that he will be captured for some time, as no one knows so well all the fastnesses and hiding-places of a district where he so long played such a notorious part; and, notwithstanding the general panic which his escape has occasioned, there are numbers of persons who, from some motive or other, will be ready to conceal him or join him in his enterprises. The same sentiment which induces a jury to bring in a verdict of murder with extenuating circumstances will prompt the peasant to save the *poverino* from the fangs of the law, so that we may expect to hear more of one who held two of our countrymen in his power. 'In two years and a half,' says the *Naples Observer*, 'Manzoni confessed that he had received from his captives no less a sum than £18,000, or nearly £13,000.' Provisions, indeed, cost him much, through the difficulty of obtaining them. Still, enough remained to reward his faithful followers, and this fact will not be forgotten by many a poor fellow who has scarcely bread to eat. Not a fortnight has passed since six brigands escaped from another prison in a neighbouring province, so that the most atrocious murderer may say, 'while there is life there is hope.' One cause of the sentimental compassion entertained by a jury for a prisoner at the bar is no doubt the long interval which often elapses between the commission of the crime and the trial. I met a man last week who had been summoned as a witness in a case of homicide. 'When was it committed?' I asked. 'Six years ago,' was the answer. Time softens men's feelings wonderfully, and in such circumstances it would be difficult to get a Neapolitan jury to convict on the main charge; or, if they did, it would be difficult to imagine an Italian Government consenting to its being carried into execution. So crimes of blood are on the increase, as is attested by the highest authorities of the law."

LONDON POLICE COURTS.

AN IMPORTANT CAB QUESTION.—At Southwark, last Saturday, Captain George Henry Harrington, of the East Indian mercantile navy, was summoned before Mr. Partridge by Edward Quin, cabdriver, for refusing to pay him the sum of 6s. 6d. due to him for conveying defendant from the East and West India Dock station to the railway terminus, London Bridge. The complainant said that between ten and eleven at noon on the 10th ult. he was on the cabstand at the East and West India Dock station at Poplar, when the gentleman hired him to convey him and three boxes to the Cannon-street railway terminus. On their arrival there, the defendant, who wanted to go to Brighton, told him to drive him to the London Bridge terminus. On arriving there, the defendant tendered him 3s., which he refused to accept, as he was entitled to 6s. 6d. Mr. Partridge asked him how many miles he charged for. Complainant replied that it was five miles from the East and West India Dock station to the London Bridge terminus. The former being beyond the radius, he was entitled to 1s. a mile for the whole distance and 6d. for the three boxes. Mr. Partridge doubted whether he was entitled to so much. The defendant said he was positive that he was not. He spoke to the station-master at the railway and the inspector of police, who told him the cabman was only entitled to 1s. for the mile beyond the radius and 6d. a mile within the radius. He tendered him what he considered to be the just fare, which he refused to accept, and had put him (defendant) to considerable inconvenience and annoyance by being compelled to attend the police court. The complainant observed that all he wanted was what the law entitled him to. The new Act of Parliament, which came into operation in March last, was clearly in his favour. Complainant here placed a copy of the Act passed in August last before his Worship. One of the clauses set forth, "Where a cabman was hired without the radius he was entitled to 1s. a mile, whether discharged within or without the radius." It would be very hard for a cabman if he could only charge 6d. a mile, as that would be only at the rate of 3d. a mile, as he must go back to his original starting-place beyond the radius. Mr. Partridge observed that it was quite clear from the Act of Parliament before him that the complainant was entitled to 1s. a mile the whole distance. Did defendant dispute the distance? Captain Harrington said he did not dispute that, and of course he was not in a position to dispute the Act of Parliament; but he thought it very singular that neither the station master of the railway nor the inspector of police was aware of

such an Act. Of course he was not cognisant of it, and he believed the majority of the public were ignorant of such an extraordinary clause. Mr. Partridge told him there was no difficulty about the Act of Parliament. It was as plain as possible. He must pay the cabman the sum of 5s. 6d., and 5s. costs.

ATTEMPTED MURDER BY A LUNATIC.—Dennis Rees, aged twenty-nine, was charged at the Marylebone Police Court, on Monday, with attempting to murder a lad named James Wilson, aged ten years. Two lads were playing in a lane near Willesden, when the prisoner came by, and, without provocation, knocked one of them down with a flat iron which he had in his hand, and afterwards struck the poor little fellow several blows, leaving him insensible. He was captured with the iron still in his grasp. A surgical certificate was put in to the effect that the boy was in a most dangerous condition, and the prisoner was remanded.

SMOKE CONSUMPTION.—At Marlborough-street, on Tuesday, Mr. Henry Littleton, music publisher, No. 69, Dean-street, was summoned before Mr. Newton under the Smoke Nuisance Act for not having a furnace so constructed as to consume its own smoke. Mr. West appeared for the defendant. The case was proved by the police, who saw smoke on various days issuing from the chimney for the space of ten or twelve minutes. One of the constables has been expressly employed to watch the chimney. Mr. West said that his defence was that the defendant burnt coke only, which could not emit smoke, and that if smoke was seen at any time it was only for a few minutes when the furnace was lighted, and when it could not possibly be any nuisance to the neighbourhood. He had several of the defendant's neighbours as witnesses, and he would further call the attention of the magistrate to the marginal note in the Act, which stated that where fuel not producing smoke was used there should be no penalty. Singularly enough, there was nothing in the body of the Act to that effect; but it was obvious that the Legislature intended it should have weight, by the words in the margin of the clause. Three witnesses living in Dean-street were called for the defence. They had not been annoyed by the smoke, nor had they seen any smoke from the chimney, except occasionally for a few minutes in the early part of the morning when the furnace was lighted. Mr. Newton said it would avail nothing if the defendant called everyone living in the street, to say they had not seen smoke issuing from the chimney. The police had deposed to the fact, and one constable had been specially placed in the street to watch the chimney, and he made a memorandum at the time that he did see smoke coming from the chimney. It was not a question of inconvenience to neighbours; it was a question which concerned the public; and, holding that the case was proved, he should inflict a penalty of 20s., and expenses 25s.

A DISPUTED LANCASHIRE ESTATE.—SINGULAR CASE.—A singular case has occupied the Hastingden Bench recently, a carter named Charles Chadwick, of Bury, Lancashire, having been twice before them and remanded on a charge of being a party to the mutilation of the register of the parish church, the mutilation, it is alleged, having been effected for the purposes of fraud, whereby the estate formerly owned by Sir Andrew Chadwick, deceased, of London, has found its way into the hands of wrong owners. Andrew Chadwick was in the household of Queen Anne, and his estate, on his decease, passed into Chancery, but some claimants made their appearance in due course. William and Squire Guest were agents for one John Chadwick, of West Leigh, near Bury, and about thirty years ago they obtained an order from the Court of Chancery declaring the said John Chadwick to be heir-at-law to Sir Andrew. Under this order about £10,000 of the estate became enjoyable by the claimant, but other property still remains in the hands of strangers. Other claimants arose, and a lawsuit was instituted by Eyra Chadwick and others against John Chadwick others to recover the estate, they claiming to be the legal descendants of Sir Andrew. The prisoner, Charles Chadwick, in 1861, made a statutory declaration, before Mr. Grundy, a solicitor, Bury, that William and Squire Guest examined the register of burials in the minister's house at Hastingden, and during the minister's temporary absence Squire Guest cut out a leaf containing the register of James Chadwick, of Hastingden, of whom Eyra Chadwick is a descendant. The defendants having had possession of the estate for more than twenty years, the plaintiffs could only claim by showing fraud, and this was the fraud they urged when the case was before the Master of the Rolls, about a year ago; but the prisoner swore directly the reverse of his declaration, and the suit failed. The solicitors of the plaintiffs therefore summoned the prisoner for being a party to the mutilation of the register, and he was brought up on remand the other day. Mr. Wood, barrister, Middle Temple, prosecuted; Mr. Crossland, Bury, defended. Robert Chadwick saw the prisoner sign the declaration in Grundy's house. Robert Merton, Castle Tavern, Lincoln's-inn, said when the suit was tried in London prisoner stayed at his house, and he heard him say that his declaration was true, and that Squire Guest cut out the burial from the register, and he would swear it before the Master of the Rolls; but he swore the opposite. He communicated with one of the plaintiffs. Other witnesses were called who deposed that prisoner had often told them of the mutilation of the register. Mr. Wood said that the order from Chancery on behalf of John Chadwick was obtained by false declarations, to the effect that James Chadwick died at Bury, and that he was the same James Chadwick who had lived at Hastingden. Giles Hoyle made a declaration that he had been told that by Benjamin Chadwick, who, it appeared, died three years before Hoyle's death. After sitting seven hours, the magistrates adjourned the case until Friday, when evidence as to the missing leaves from the register will be given and the defence heard. Bail refused.

THE RELIGION OF A MINOR.—Before the Lord Chancellor of Ireland, on Saturday last, application was made on behalf of Mr. William Garnett, one of the testamentary guardians of the late Henry Garnett, father of the minor, that

the Court should give directions as to the school to which the minor should be sent, and what religious education he should receive. The late Mr. Garnett, of Greenpark, in the county of Meath, father of the minor, had left all his property to the minor, subject to an annuity to his wife and some other charges. He had been twice married—first, to a Roman Catholic lady, by whom he had several children, who were all brought up Roman Catholics, and all of whom, with one exception, were now resident abroad. Mr. Garnett's second marriage took place in 1852, his second wife, a Miss Mary Roche, although of a Roman Catholic family, being herself a Protestant. The minor was born in May, 1858. In 1869, shortly before her husband's death, she became a Roman Catholic. The minor was baptised a Protestant, and brought up as such until his father's death, in January, 1871. He had been sent to various Protestant schools up to the Christmas vacation of 1870. The father's death occurred during the vacation, and after that occurrence the petitioner had gone to Mrs. Garnett and suggested that he should be sent back to school. She, however, stated that she wished to keep him with her for some time, and she promised not to interfere with his religion. The petitioner, however, having heard afterwards that the minor had adopted the Roman Catholic religion, filed a petition in July last to make him a ward of court. The mother of the minor made an affidavit resisting the application. She stated that he had refused to go to a Protestant school; that she had sent him to a Roman Catholic school, and that she believed his religious convictions had become so settled that "strength" would be required to make him go to a Protestant school. She further stated that she believed that if her husband were now alive he would not interfere with the settled convictions of the child. She also stated that after her marriage a sister of hers, who was a Roman Catholic, came to reside with her; and after the birth of the child, and when he could understand, he was taught from Roman Catholic books; had often accompanied his aunt to chapel while his parents went to church, and in January, 1861, his aunt had him baptised a Roman Catholic, in Cork; that his father never sought to prevent this teaching, and that he himself (the father) was most favourably disposed toward the Roman Catholic faith; that he was not dissatisfied with her when, in 1869, she informed him of her intention to become a Roman Catholic, and when the local Protestant clergyman came to the house to complain of the change he was angry at his interference; that her husband shortly afterwards presented her with a Roman Catholic Bible, and on Sundays sent her on the car to chapel, and on one occasion accompanied her there; that she frequently told him the child would be a Roman Catholic, and during his last illness he allowed the child to go to chapel with her, and she expected that he would have become a Roman Catholic himself before he died. The Rev. John Kelly, P.P., Navan, had made an affidavit in support of the respondent's case. He deposed that the late Mr. Garnett was favourably disposed to some of the Roman Catholic doctrines which are not acquiesced in by Protestants, particularly with regard to the province of private judgment in religious matters; that the boy had attended chapel since his father's death, and had now settled convictions in favour of the Catholic faith. Affidavits were made in reply to the respondent's case, to the effect that the father had placed the child at a Protestant school to be educated as a Protestant, and that he had been so educated; that he was in the habit of taking him with him to the Protestant church. The Lord Chancellor said he would read the affidavits before giving judgment.

NEW LAW APPOINTMENTS.—The rapid translation of Mr. Justice Collier from the Court of Common Pleas to the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council has occasioned another vacancy among the Judges. The choice has fallen upon Mr. Grove. Whatever exception may be plausibly taken to recent judicial changes, no objection can fairly be raised to this appointment. The fact that Mr. Grove is an able lawyer and something more, renders him doubly well fitted for acting as Judge. His long experience at the Bar, and his position as head of the Welsh Circuit for several years, are assurances of his legal capacity and power. Nor is the circumstance that his most successful appearances as counsel have been in patent cases any drawback. On the contrary, as Justice of the Common Pleas he may often be called upon to decide questions in which his knowledge of patent practice will prove of the utmost practical value. With greater leisure, his scientific studies can hardly fail to yield some excellent fruit. The fact that a lawyer in full practice should have written such a work as the "Correlation of Physical Forces," should attain such an eminence in the world of science as to fit him for the coveted position of President of the British Association, and should do all this without

detriment to his purely professional pursuits, inspires the hope that he may not consider a seat on the Bench as the termination of his philosophic career. The elevation of Professor Bernard to the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council is another appointment deserving a word of commendation. The precedent set in the case of Mr. Pemberton Leigh, afterwards Lord Kingsdown, is followed in placing on that committee one who has never been a Judge. The large acquaintance possessed by Professor Bernard with international law and with jurisprudence is in itself a sufficient guarantee that he will do good service in his new office.—*Daily News*.

HOW TO TEACH MANNERS.—A gentleman has just had a narrow escape from seven days' imprisonment with hard labour for staring at a lady in a refreshment-room—that is to say, such would have been the act by which he had virtually brought this punishment on himself. When remonstrated with by the lady's husband he hit him on the nose, and this, of course, was the immediate offence for which he was placed in the dock. The rudeness of which he had been guilty is not punishable by the law of the land. That a cat may look at a King is a maxim of the British Constitution, "wrung from his Majesty by the Barons," as Mr. Nupkins would have said. But still it is a freedom which is capable of being made extremely unpleasant by ill-bred or impertinent people. It is much to be desired that the example of Mr. Wentworth Austin, the prosecutor in this case, should be generally followed, and that more persons when annoyed by such conduct should aggravate the offender to assault them, and then get him locked up. What a common occurrence it is when you get into a railway carriage for some one of its occupants to look you all over from head to foot, as much as to say, "Who are you, and what do you mean by coming into this carriage?" Still commoner is it, as you pass people in the street, to meet a pair of eyes steadily fastened on your own with an expression which seems to mean, "Ah! my fine fellow, it's all very well, but I can see through you." We have often felt tempted to ask such people what they meant. It is possible, we grant, that such things are sometimes done unconsciously. It may be that the man in the street is inwardly rehearsing some scene in a court of justice, and imagines himself to be examining a witness who is obviously committing perjury. It may be that the man in the railway carriage is thinking how he will look next time he meets that fellow who said that he was getting fat. It may be so, of course. But who is to know it? It should be brought home to such gentlemen that they cannot indulge in these reveries in public places except at their own risk, and that they must not expect anybody to make this excuse for them. It is a habit which ought to be put down. Such behaviour, where intentional, is both vulgar and insolent, and where unintentional is equally offensive. Should this catch the eye of anyone addicted to it, he will, we are sure, if he is a gentleman, at once endeavour to correct himself. If he is not, we hope somebody will tell him so, that he will hit his informant on the nose, and get a week of hard labour in return.—*Pall Mall Gazette*.

MURDER AND SUICIDE IN BIRMINGHAM.—A shocking case of wife murder and suicide occurred in Birmingham last Saturday morning. An elderly man named Frederick Oakes, a wagon-maker, has for some time past been living unhappily with his wife, and on Saturday morning, after a long and angry altercation with the poor woman, he cut her throat with the carving-knife, and afterwards attempted to kill himself with the same weapon. Mrs. Oakes had just strength enough to stagger into the street, where she fell down and died in a few minutes. Her husband returned to the bed-room, where he was shortly afterwards found sitting on the floor bleeding from a wound in the throat. He was at once removed to the hospital, where he has since died.

THE LONDON GAZETTE.

FRIDAY, NOV. 24.
BANKRUPTS.—J. O. BAKER, Upper Thames-street, commercial clerk—H. MARCHMONT, Notting-hill, builder—T. A. BRAIN, Stratford, carrier—H. FORBES, J. BAWDEN, and W. PHIPPS, Liverpool, shipbuilders—J. and W. JOHNSON, Latham, millers—M. LORD, jun., Gildersleepe, joiner—G. R. T. MEALIN, Hounslow, banker's clerk—J. OLDROYD, Dewsbury, tobacco manufacturer—R. PICKERISILL, Blackburn, boot and shoe dealer—A. T. RAFTER, Norwich, homoeopathic chemist—W. and E. BOWEN, Newark, painters—G. SOUTHWORTH, Birmingham, draper.
SCOTCH SEQUESTERATIONS.—J. MCNICOLL, Vancouver Island, farmer—G. DONALD, Forfar, clerk—L. MATHESON, Inverness, spirit merchant—D. MORRISON, Auchtermuchty, innkeeper.
TUESDAY, NOV. 28.
BANKRUPTS.—J. A. BENIT, Addington-road, Bow, and Savage gardens, City, commission agent—R. W. BILEY, Lifford-square, Waltham, mantle-maker—A. FEEDEY, Bedford-row, attorney—C. M. BROWN, Witney, chemist and druggist—W. J. BUCK, Fairlight, Lieutenant in the Royal Navy—E. JOHNSON, Newcastle-on-Tyne, house and land agent—E. S. and J. LORD, Littleborough, woollen manufacturer—F. H. MITCHELL, Aberdeen, pawnbroker—G. O. ROWE, Plymouth, hemp merchant and rope manufacturer—J. PEARNE, Regent Lezard, farmer—W. H. REYNOLDS, Plymouth-st. Mary, watchmaker—T. YOUNG, Rickmansworth, journeyman baker—W. SCOTT, Earlsdon, blanket maker.

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